

wild and scenic river study
environmental statement

july 1980

GREEN AND YAMPA RIVERS



COLORADO / UTAH

POSITION OF THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

The Secretary of the Interior concurs with the findings in the report that the studied segments of the Green and Yampa Rivers qualify for, and would be worthy additions to, the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. However, he has noted that there are a number of interrelated activities underway which will not be resolved until sometime in the future. Included are the:

- (1) quantification and litigation of the federal reserved water rights for Dinosaur National Monument;
- (2) completion of the studies to determine the water requirements to preserve the habitat for endangered species of fish in the Yampa and Green Rivers;
- (3) completion of the BLM lands inventory, and if required, study of the potential for wilderness designation of the Cross Mountain area;
- (4) development and evaluation of a proposal to develop the hydroelectric potential associated with the proposed Juniper-Cross Mountain Project;
- (5) development and evaluation of the proposal for diversion from the Little Snake River, a tributary to the Yampa, to meet the requirements of Stage III of Cheyenne, Wyoming's Water Project;
- (6) evaluation of needs for water to facilitate development and use of coal or other energy resources in the Upper Yampa Basin.

Although the final environmental statement for this study includes a "worst case analysis" of the impacts on upstream development based on available data, it is impossible to completely assess these interrelationships until present studies of these activities are completed. Accordingly, consistent with the requirements of Sec. 4(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act that we include in the report ". . . the reasonably foreseeable potential uses of the land and water which would be enhanced, foreclosed, or curtailed if the area were included in the national wild and scenic rivers system . . .", the Secretary does not believe it appropriate to forward a recommendation for designation of these segments of river at this time.

The report is being furnished to the Congress so that it may be aware of the natural values associated with the rivers. Because these values are outstandingly significant, the Secretary requests that the Congress extend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, Section 7(b) prohibitions against the development of water resource projects on these segments until Congress can be advised more precisely as to the values which would be foreclosed or foregone should the rivers be designated as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. At that time, the potential designation will be reassessed and, as appropriate, a supplemental report and environmental impact statement would be prepared to support an Administration recommendation.

ERRATA

Since this study report and environmental statement were prepared, it was learned there was a recent change in the status of two fish that had been proposed for the list of "threatened" and "endangered" species. In the April 23, 1980, Federal Register, a final ruling listed the Bonytail Chub (*Gila elegans*) as an endangered species; this fish is described in this document as proposed for the endangered list. On April 24, 1980, the Humpback (Razorback) Sucker (*Xyrauchen texanus*) was dropped from the list of species proposed for threatened status. These two fish are mentioned in a number of places in the foregoing material.

United States Department of the Interior

FINAL WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY

and

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

GREEN AND YAMPA

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS

Prepared by

National Park Service
Denver Service Center

in cooperation with

The Colorado Department of Natural Resources

and

The Utah Department of Natural Resources

Acting Director
National Park Service


C. J. Unruh
Date 4/21/80

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SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS, IMPACTS,
AND COSTS

FINDINGS

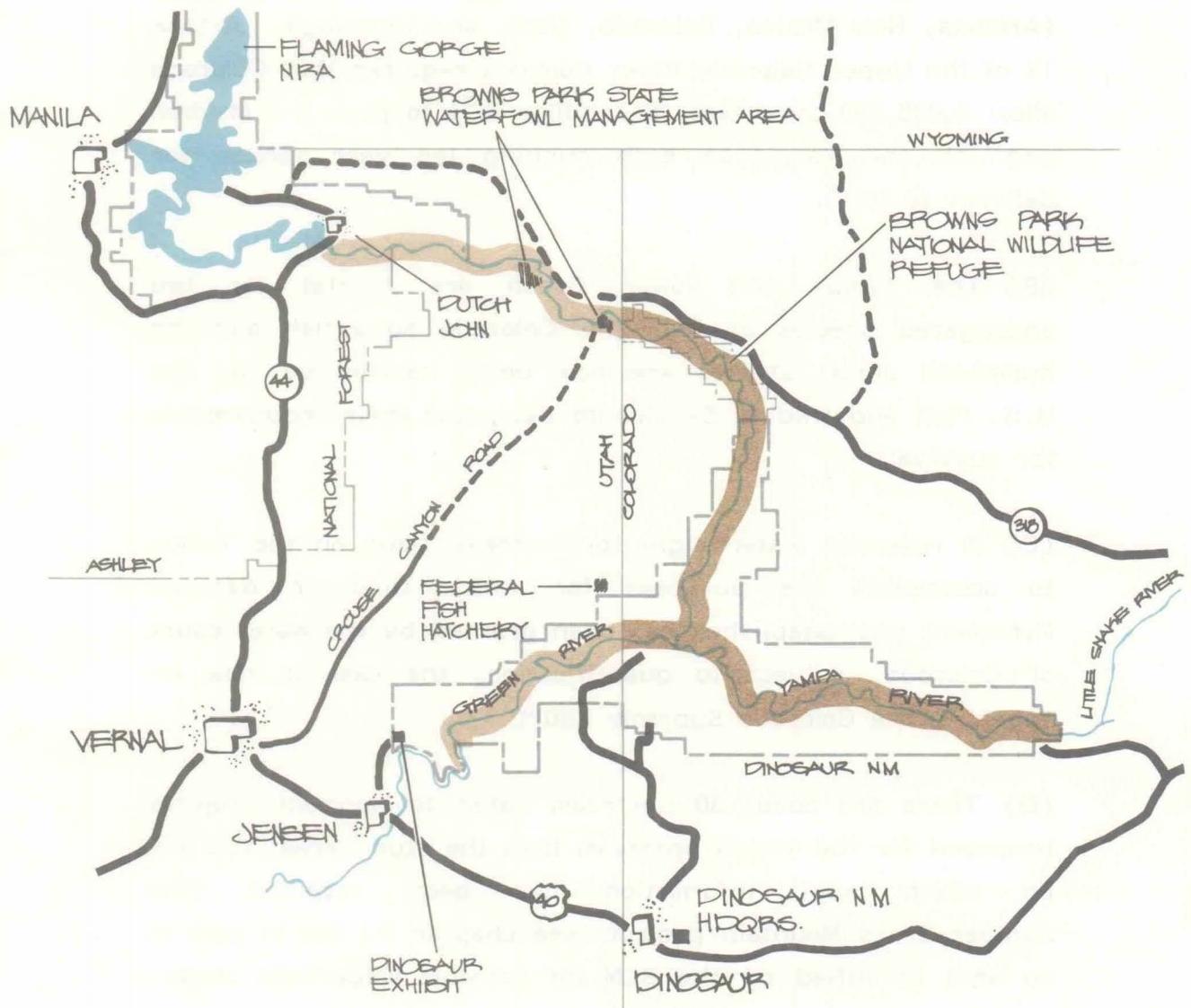
1. The entire study area, consisting of 91 miles (146.5 km) of the Green River from Flaming Gorge Dam to the southern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument (Utah and Colorado), and the 47 miles (75.7 km) of the Yampa River from the eastern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument to the confluence with the Green River (Colorado), is eligible for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
2. Management of the Green and Yampa Rivers within the study area is the responsibility of several federal and state agencies. A need for greater coordination in future management and planning will be met largely by preparation and implementation of a cooperative management plan following designation. There are two tracts of private land in the study area, totaling 108 acres (43.7 ha) in segment B, which may be affected by the acquisition of scenic easements.
3. Findings as to appropriate classification levels for the four river segments studied are presented as Recommendations, following. There was a difference of opinion within the study team and among the various publics commenting on the draft report and environmental statement as to whether the Browns Park segment of the Green should be "recreational" or "scenic." After re-examining this issue following review of comments received on the draft, the Browns Park segment has been recommended for a scenic classification.

4. Five alternative plans were formulated, including three that involve wild and scenic river designation. Two alternatives would designate the Green River segments or the Yampa River segment only. The recommended alternative (see recommendation 3 in this summary) was found to offer the greatest degree of resource protection, consistent with classifying all four river segments at the level for which they qualify.

5. The construction of major upstream water resource projects on the Yampa or a combination of smaller upstream projects could modify the present essentially natural flows of the Yampa River in the study area, diminishing the unique qualities of the study area and possibly the values which qualify the river for designation.

6. During the course of this study, several issues and actions that interrelate to some degree with this study and its proposal were brought to the attention of the study team or the National Park Service. These issues, which are summarized as follows, were fully considered in developing the findings and recommendations. However, as noted in the statement that precedes this summary, the resolution of these issues will be necessary to determine what Yampa River flows, if any, will be required specifically for wild and scenic river purposes if the Green and Yampa are designated. If flow levels are not required above those needed for the other purposes discussed below, wild and scenic designation will have no impact on upstream projects or water rights.

(A) The waters of the Yampa River are covered by two interstate compacts. Compacts are recognized in section 13(e) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The Colorado River Compact of 1922 divides the water of the Colorado River system between the states of the Upper and Lower Basin. The Upper Colorado River Compact of 1948 divided the allocation of water for the Upper Basin among the states which comprise it



- LEGEND**
- IMPROVED ROAD
 - - UNIMPROVED ROAD
 - STUDY AREA AS DESIGNATED BY P.L. 93-621
 - ADDITION TO STUDY AREA

THE STUDY AREA AND SURROUNDINGS

GREEN/YAMPA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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(Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming). Article 13 of the Upper Colorado River Compact requires that Colorado allow 5,000,000 acre feet (6.1 billion m³) to pass the Maybell gage on the Yampa in each running ten year series, for delivery to Utah.

(B) The Yampa and lower Green are habitat for two endangered species of fish--the Colorado squawfish and the humpback chub; studies are now being carried out by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to determine their requirements for survival.

(C) A reserved water right for instream flows on the Yampa to accomplish the purposes for which Dinosaur National Monument was established has been granted by the water court of Colorado, subject to quantification; the case is now on appeal to the Colorado Supreme Court.

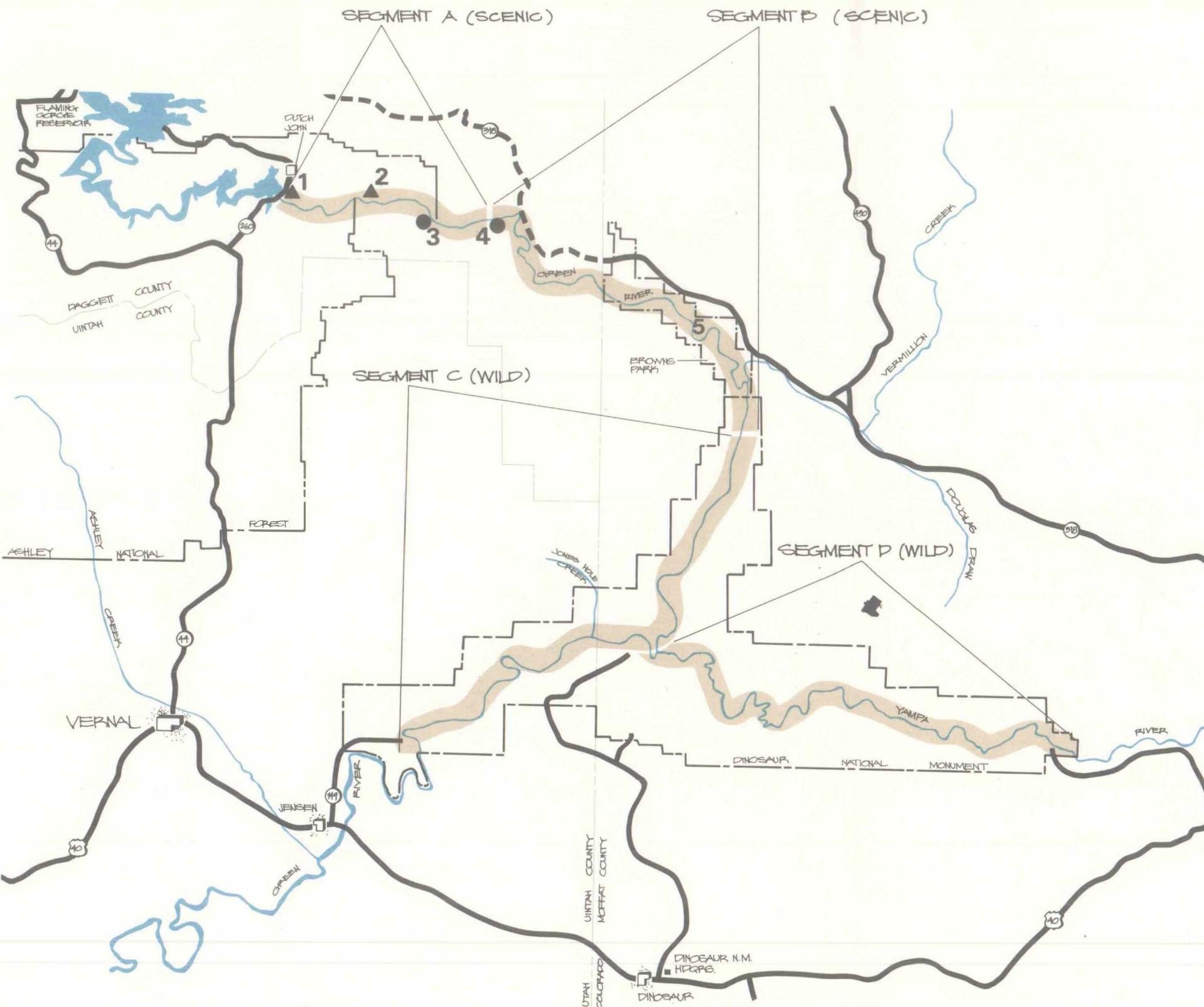
(D) There are about 30 upstream water development projects proposed for the Yampa upstream from the study area; the one on which most information has been received (the Juniper-Cross Mountain project; see chapter II) lies in part in an area identified by the BLM for possible wilderness study.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The 91 miles (146.5 km) of the Green River between the Forest Service Spillway boat ramp below Flaming Gorge Dam and the southern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument and the 47 miles (75.7 km) of the Yampa River between the eastern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument and the confluence with the Green River should be designated as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

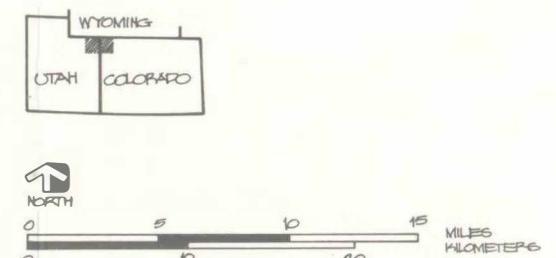
2. As required in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, a detailed (cooperative) management plan must be developed for the area. This plan should be prepared within two years following river designation. The cooperative plan should emphasize aspects of river management that will both ensure protection and enhancement of the area's outstanding natural values and provide for safe, high quality visitor experiences. The management plan should be prepared jointly by the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Water and Power Resources Service (formerly the Bureau of Reclamation), Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, and the Colorado Department of Natural Resources. Individual agency management plans should dovetail with the cooperative management plan. The Secretary of the Interior will have administrative responsibility, in cooperation with the Secretary of Agriculture and the States of Utah and Colorado.

3. Based on physiographic and man-made characteristics, the Green and Yampa Rivers were divided into four segments. The recommended classifications are as follows:



LEGEND

- 1 SPILLWAY BOAT RAMP
 - 2 LITTLE HOLE CAMPGROUND, BOAT RAMP, AND TRAIL
 - 3 RED CREEK FLOAT STOP
 - 4 PROPOSED BRIDGE HOLLOW CAMPGROUND AND PICNIC AREA
 - 5 BROWNS PARK NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
- BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT RECREATION SITES
- ▲ U.S. FOREST SERVICE RECREATION SITES



PROPOSED DESIGNATION, CLASSIFICATION, AND RECREATION DEVELOPMENTS

GREEN/YAMPA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
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Segment D, Yampa River: From the eastern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument to the river's confluence with the Green:

47 miles (75.7 km)-----WILD

IMPACTS

1. The proposal will preserve, for present and future generations, the scenic, aesthetic, recreational, geologic, cultural, and fish and wildlife values of approximately 91 miles (147 km) and 29,000 acres (11,600 ha) of the Green River, and 47 miles (76 km) and 15,000 acres (6,000 ha) of the Yampa River, in their present state.
 2. The proposal will cause an approximate 2 percent increase in use of the river corridor, which is compatible with proposed classifications and protection of the river resource. Facilities to accommodate this use will cause minor temporary increases in soil erosion and destruction of vegetation during construction.
 3. If the Yampa River is designated, determinations may need to be made by the Secretary of the Interior for each federally assisted or licensed water project above the designated segment to determine if the project impacts would constitute a "direct and adverse effect on the values for which the river (was) designated," or "unreasonably diminish the scenic, recreational, and fish and wildlife values present. . ."¹ This could modify or preclude the development of projects involving \$150 to \$200 million or more in construction funds, \$7.5 million or more

1. Section 7(a), Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

in annual production of hydropower, and up to 300,000 annual acre-feet (367 million m³) of consumptive water use. Overall it is likely that further water project development of the Yampa basin will be limited or modified but not precluded. However, this will not necessarily be the result of wild and scenic river designation.

Sufficient information was available on the Cheyenne Water Project, which involves diversion of water from Yampa River tributaries in Wyoming, to determine that Stages I and II of the project would have no significant impact on the unique values of the Yampa study segment; thus, designation would not impact the project. This determination did not consider Stage III, for which detailed plans have not been advanced.

4. Precluding or modifying water resource development would not impact mineral production, but might indirectly affect production techniques and transportation, and possibly increase costs of production or transportation by an unknown but probably not large amount.

COSTS

Scenic easements will probably be needed on an estimated 108 acres (43.7 ha) of private land with about 0.8 mile (1.3 km) of riverfront involving two tracts in the Utah portion of segment B (Browns Park). The cost of these easements would be approximately \$162,000.

Several recreation site improvements and developments are proposed in segments A and B (see chapters V and VI). Total recreation improvement costs associated with this proposal would be \$913,000.

The cost of additional annual administration, operation, and maintenance for recreation would be approximately \$12,000.²

2. Cost estimates for scenic easement acquisitions, recreation improvements and developments, and additional annual administration, operation, and maintenance for recreation are based on information that was provided by federal land-managing agencies in the river corridor. All cost estimates are in 1978 dollars.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, Public Law 90-542, October 2, 1968, established a national policy that certain outstanding rivers or river segments should be preserved in their free-flowing condition for the enjoyment of present and future generations. The Act also established the national wild and scenic rivers system, designated eight rivers as initial components of that system and designated other rivers for study as potential components of the system.

A total of 29 rivers or river segments are part of the National System, as of the most recent amendment to P.L. 90-542, P.L. 95-625. Numerous other rivers designated in ensuing amendments have had studies completed or are now undergoing study. In the amendment of January 3, 1975 (P.L. 93-621), 29 additional rivers were designated for study, 12 of which are located in Colorado. Among these rivers are the 47-mile (75.7 km) segment of the Yampa and the 41.6 mile (66.9 km) segment of the Green River in Colorado covered by this report. For efficiency, a decision was made to study the Yampa and Green Rivers concurrently.

EXTENSION OF THE GREEN RIVER STUDY AREA

The study area boundaries as listed in section 5(a) of P.L. 93-621 were as follows: "(38) Green, Colorado: The entire segment within the State of Colorado." The segment of the Green River ran from the upper end of Browns Park to a point just above Jones Hole Creek in Whirlpool Canyon. The upper and lower study limits did not coincide with any change in physiographic or man-made features.

Recognizing that the boundaries specified in the Act would restrict the effectiveness of the study, Governor Calvin L. Rampton of Utah requested that the Secretary of the Interior extend the Green River study area into Utah, upstream to Flaming Gorge Dam and downstream to the southern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument, i.e., 0.7 mile (1.1 km) below the boat landing at Split Mountain Campground. Colorado Governor Richard D. Lamm supported Governor Rampton's request. In August 1976, Assistant Secretary of the Interior Nathaniel P. Reed approved the Utah Governor's request to extend the Green River study area.

STUDY REQUIREMENTS

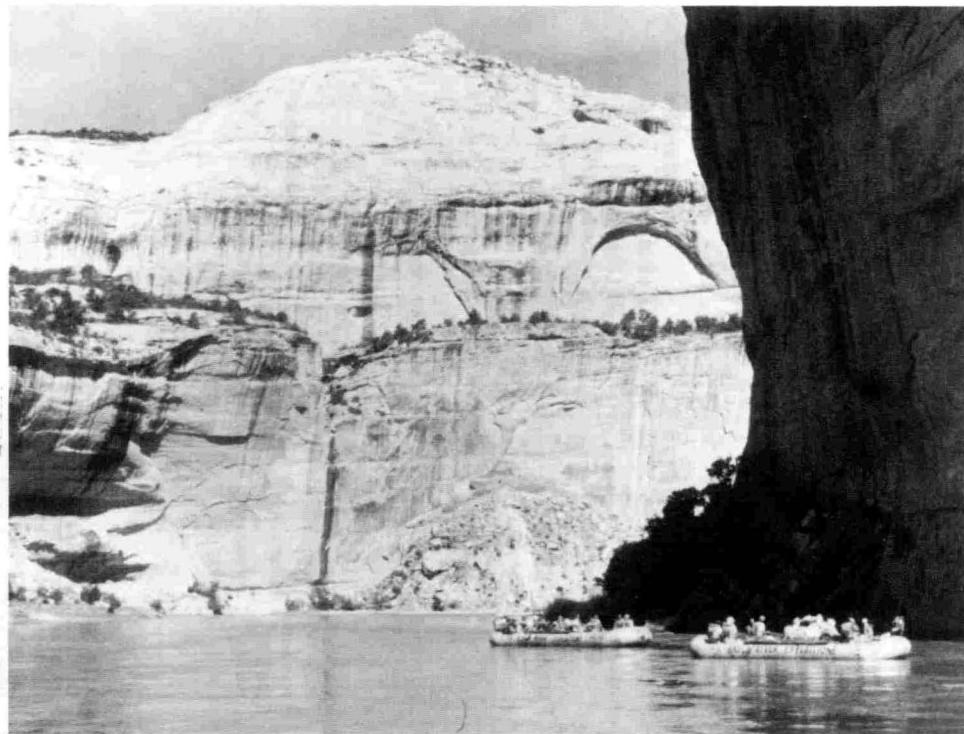
Procedures and criteria for determining eligibility for and classification under the National System are outlined in the Act and in guidelines issued jointly in February, 1970, by the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture. Eligibility of the Yampa and Green Rivers and determinations of their classification appear in chapter IV and are based on information presented in chapters II and III of this report.

Since wild and scenic river studies involve decisions concerning future use of water and related land resources, each study must include a socioeconomic analysis of the effects that may result from possible designation of a river under the National System. Procedures for making such an analysis were developed by the Water Resources Council and published in the Federal Register of September 10, 1973 (Volume 38, Number 174). This process is commonly known as the "Principles and Standards Analysis" and is presented in chapter XI.

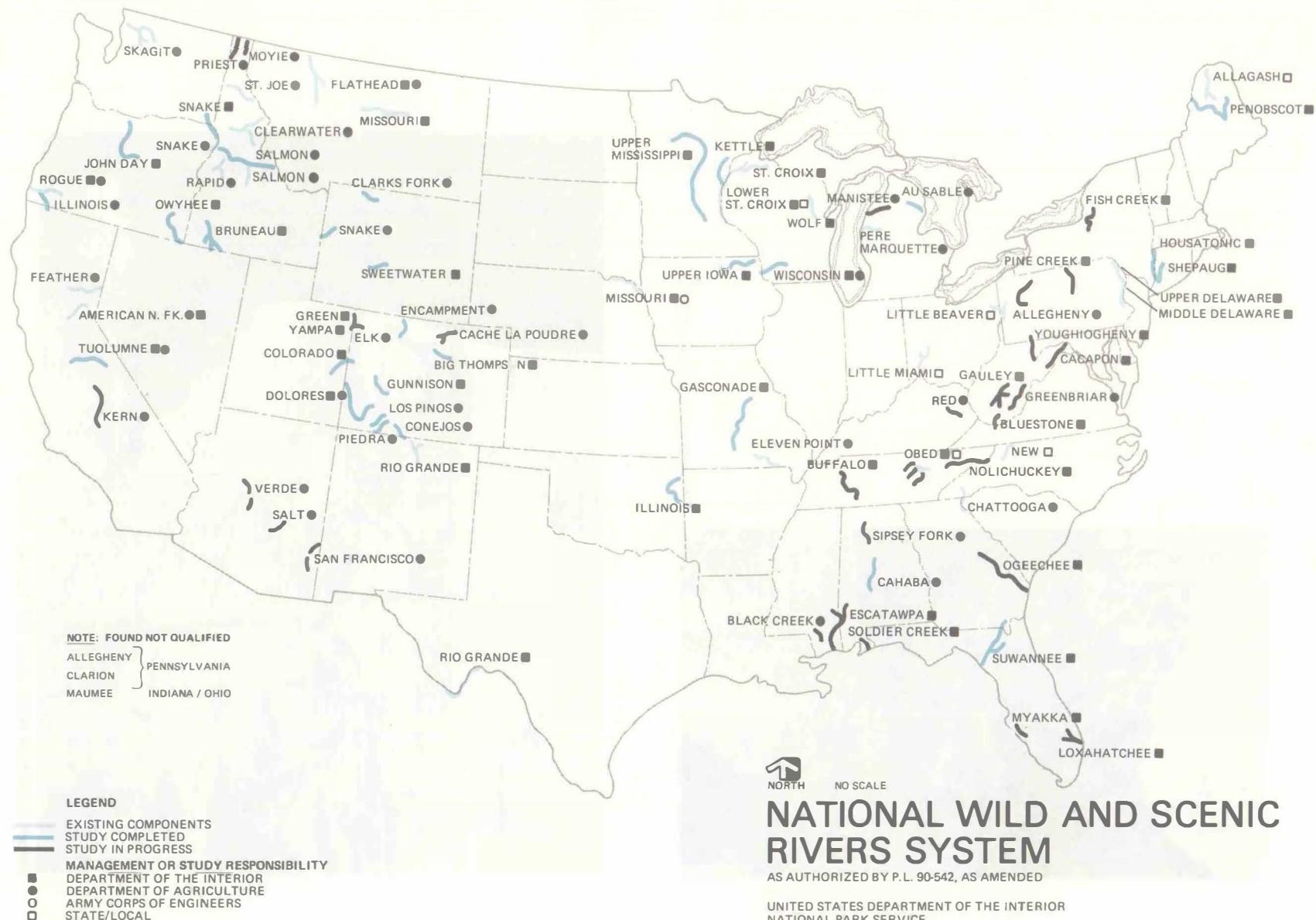
As required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of January 1, 1970 (P.L. 91-190), an evaluation was made of the



The Gates of Lodore. HCRS



Weber Sandstone walls along the Yampa. HCRS



NO SCALE

NATIONAL WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS SYSTEM

AS AUTHORIZED BY P.L. 90-542, AS AMENDED

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

WSRS 20,051A
DSC FEB '80

environmental impacts associated with the "Proposed Action" and is displayed in the environmental impact statement. The intent of this statement is to display the impacts so that environmental effects may be fully considered in the decision-making process.

CONDUCT OF STUDY

A joint federal-state study team was organized in January, 1976. Leadership responsibilities were shared by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service (formerly the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation) and the Colorado Department of Natural Resources (represented by the Colorado Water Conservation Board) and, with the extension of the study boundaries, by the Utah Department of Natural Resources. Other member agencies included the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Mines, and the Bureau of Reclamation (now the Water and Power Resources Service). In late March of 1978, responsibility for the study was transferred to the National Park Service.

Assisting the study team was a work group composed of representatives of federal and state agencies, water districts, and conservation and other organizations. Public views were solicited through the formal review process and at public meetings held in Craig and Denver, Colorado, and in Vernal and Salt Lake City, Utah. In addition, news releases and information on the public meetings were widely distributed.

Basic information used in developing the report and environmental statement was obtained from a variety of sources, including the Colorado and Utah Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans. In some instances information was supplied by team or work group members with special expertise in the subjects covered.



Drag-folding bends the layers of the Weber Sandstone and Morgan Formation along the Mitten Park Fault, near the confluence of the Green and Yampa Rivers. HCRS

Prior to making the determination of river eligibility and classification presented in chapter IV, a field reconnaissance was conducted by the team, accompanied by representatives of interested agencies and organizations and concerned private citizens. In addition, experts in several resource fields (e.g., the State Archeologists of Colorado and Utah) advised the team and work group on which natural values (by segment) could be considered "outstandingly remarkable."

MAJOR ISSUES AND CONCERNS

Water Project Development

Through public and agency contacts and data collection, the team identified about thirty possible water resource development sites in the Yampa River basin upstream from the study area. These reservoirs and associated facilities would provide power, irrigation, municipal and industrial water, domestic water, and limited flood control benefits, and although it is unlikely that all will be built, the potential for basin development is considerable. The projects are described in the "water resources" section of chapter II; additional references are made in chapter XI.

In western Colorado and Wyoming, public concern was expressed over the possibility that wild or scenic river designation of the Yampa could preclude, modify, or otherwise interfere with the development of upstream water resource projects. Precluding or modifying water development could hamper the growth and planning of areas and towns already impacted by the energy boom, eliminate a source of flat-water recreation for residents of rapidly expanding communities, and limit energy development. This concern was expressed both by residents of the Craig area, by Wyoming officials, by residents of the Cheyenne, Wyoming area, whose

municipal water project involves exchanges of water from the Little Snake, tributary to the Yampa, into the basin of the North Platte River, and by others. Some of those favoring water development were of the opinion that interference with the development of conditional water rights upstream from the study area, if the river is designated, would constitute a taking of those rights, for which the United States would have to pay under the provisions of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Some of those commenting on the draft and at public meetings raised the question of whether designation would interfere with existing (perfected) water rights.

Others were concerned that designation of the rivers might interfere with the efforts of Upper Basin states to develop water apportioned them under the Colorado River Compact of 1922 and divided among themselves by the states of the Upper Basin in the Upper Colorado River Compact of 1948. Some other citizens at public meetings, and some commenting on the draft EIS, were concerned that a recommendation (that management plans for the Green River consider minimum flows for the Green below Flaming Gorge Dam) might interfere with hydropower generation at that facility and water development upstream from it.

Section 7 of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act addresses the question of water resource development restrictions and project impacts on stream segments being studied for potential inclusion, or which are already included in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. It states that no federally-assisted, licensed, or aided projects on rivers in the National System will be permitted if they "invade the area" or "unreasonably diminish the scenic, recreational and fish

and wildlife values present. . . ."¹ The application of these provisions to the Yampa required clarification; therefore, an April 21, 1976 opinion was obtained from the Denver Regional Solicitor of the Department of the Interior.

In his opinion, the Regional Solicitor stated that the Secretary of the Interior has the authority to make determinations as to whether the Juniper-Cross Mountain and Savery-Pothook projects "directly affect" the study segment of the Yampa and whether they would have a "direct and adverse effect on (or "diminish") the values for which such river may be designated." A similar determination would be required for other Yampa Basin projects if the projects are to be federally assisted "by loan, grant, license, or otherwise." However, in the case of federally assisted projects for which federal licensing or assistance would not be requested until after the Yampa is designated a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, the degree the project would affect the wild or scenic river segment determines whether the Secretary of the Interior would make a positive or negative determination. This is based on the fact that the Act states that projects may not be federally-assisted if they would "diminish" the value of rivers under study, while the term "unreasonably diminish" is used for rivers in the system.

To determine probable water resource project effects on the study segment of the Yampa River, project data were requested from the

1. In the case of projects that require licenses issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (formerly F.P.C.), the Act states that development will not be permitted if the projects would result in "directly affecting" rivers in or being studied for potential inclusion in the Wild and Scenic Rivers System. In the case of federal projects, the Secretary of the Interior and the Congress must be notified in advance in writing of intent to request authorization or construction funds. It is then up to Congress to deny or grant authorization or funding.

Water and Power Resources Service (formerly the Bureau of Reclamation), the Colorado River Water Conservation District and other entities sponsoring water resource developments in the Yampa Basin. The information received was used in chapters II, III, and XI, but it was not sufficient to make a detailed evaluation of effects of the projects on the outstanding natural values of the Yampa River in Dinosaur National Monument. The determination of the cumulative impacts of multi-project development on the study segment was also not possible since it is not known which of the reservoirs proposed will be built. If all the reservoirs proposed were actually constructed, they would store about 50 percent more water than the basin's average annual runoff.

With respect to the Cheyenne water project, the National Park Service examined the data now available on Stages I and II of the project and concluded that designation of the rivers would not impact that project. Insufficient data was available on Stage III (detailed planning has not yet been done) to consider impacts. As required by the Endangered Species Act, the Fish and Wildlife Service is preparing a biological opinion on the Cheyenne project, but it was not completed at the time of this writing.

In revising this document, more emphasis was placed on the fact that the need for minimum flow augmentation from Flaming Gorge Dam for recreation and ecological purposes was not a part of this proposal, but a matter needing more precise determination during management planning. The possibilities can then be considered by the Water and Power Resources Service whenever the Flaming Gorge Project operation is reexamined.

Endangered Species

An additional concern is the presence of endangered and potentially endangered and threatened species of fish in the Yampa River and

the Green River below the Yampa confluence. The presence of these fish were found by the study team to enhance the outstanding natural values which have made the Yampa River segment eligible for designation under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. According to the results of research done by K.G. Seethaler and others, populations of these fish have been decimated or eliminated in the Green River above the Yampa confluence by colder water temperatures and altered flow patterns caused by Flaming Gorge Dam and Reservoir.² Based on this research, it is believed that major water resource developments on the Yampa River or its tributaries upstream from the study segment could further jeopardize the existence of these four species of fish in the Yampa River and further downstream in the Green.

A report by Behnke (1979) prepared for the Colorado River Water Conservation District concludes there is a possibility that the operation of the Juniper-Cross Mountain project, upstream from the Yampa study area, could enhance the survival of the endangered fish. However, Benke concludes this would be an effect only if the project's releases reproduce the seasonally varying temperature changes of the undammed Yampa, and if project releases are timed to cancel the fluctuations from Flaming Gorge Dam (i.e., high releases from Juniper-Cross Mountain are timed to reach Echo Park, the confluence of the two rivers, when low releases from Flaming Gorge arrive there, and vice versa).

2. Endangered and Threatened Fish in the Yampa and Green Rivers of Dinosaur Monument, K.G. Seethaler, C.W. McAda, and R.S. Wydowski, Utah Cooperative Fishery Research Unit, Utah State University, December 1976. The endangered fish are the Colorado squawfish (Ptychocheilus lucius) and the humpback chub (Gila cypha). The bonytail chub (Gila elegans) has been recommended by the Fish and Wildlife Service for endangered status, while the humpback sucker (Xyrauchen texanus) has been recommended for threatened status.

The Fish and Wildlife Service has stated that the Endangered Species Act of 1973, P.L. 94-205 (as amended in 1978),³ offers protection to these endangered species and that the Act's protective provisions operate independently of protection that may be provided under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Under the provisions of the Endangered Species Act, federal agencies could not assist or license projects which are likely to jeopardize an endangered or threatened species or destroy or adversely modify its critical habitat, unless those projects are exempted under section 7 of the Act.

Reserved Water Rights Litigation

The federal government has asked for reserved water rights to accomplish the purposes for which Dinosaur National Monument was established. A conditional right for instream flows on the Yampa was awarded in the water courts of the state of Colorado, with the proviso that the National Park Service must quantify the amounts and provide an explanation of how the amounts sought will preserve the values for which the monument was established. This case is on appeal to the Supreme Court of the State of Colorado. Since the date of establishment of most of the monument through which the Yampa flows is 1938, this date would become the priority date of the right when perfected. This date is significantly senior to the priority dates of most of the upstream development projects, and could affect the feasibility of developing them, depending on the amounts and times of flow granted by the court.

Wild and scenic river designation could provide the basis for another reserved right claim to those unappropriated flows of the

3. 16 U.S.C. 1531-1542.

Yampa reasonably necessary to accomplish the purposes of designation. Such a right, with a priority of the date of designation, might be sought, but a right based on wild and scenic rivers designation, when granted, would have most junior priority in the water division.

BLM Wilderness Study and Other Local Concerns

Some of those attending the 1976 wild and scenic river study public meetings and commenting on the draft EIS expressed strong distaste for federal interference in local affairs, for additional federal regulations, and for government takeover of private lands. They questioned why the rivers should be included in the national system when much of the land was already under federal control, and doubted the abilities of the federal agencies to protect the land as well as private owners had done. In particular, the BLM's identification of the Cross Mountain area above the Yampa study segment as a possible wilderness study area was subjected to local criticism.⁴

The BLM's inventory and possible wilderness study of the Cross Mountain area is not within the province of this study, but was perceived by some individuals as being linked with it in a concerted federal campaign to block the Juniper-Cross Mountain project.

The National Park Service responded to these concerns by pointing out that the BLM Organic Act mandated the wilderness

4. Congressional designation of the Cross Mountain area as wilderness could result in the modification or abandonment of Cross Mountain Dam and appurtenant facilities.

inventory and that it really is independent of the wild and scenic river study. In answering the other concerns, the study team and the National Park Service have pointed out that, should the Yampa and Green be added to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, (1) administration will continue under existing agencies with no expected major changes in regulations or permitted river uses; (2) no condemnation of private lands in fee title will be permitted, although a limited number of riverfront scenic easements may be purchased through negotiation, or less likely, condemnation; and (3) designation under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act would provide for the long-term preservation of free-flowing river and other natural values at a greater, more secure level than that possible through present management or ownership.

Public Opinions Expressed During the Study

In 1976, two series of public meetings were held in Craig and Denver, Colorado, and Vernal, Utah. The second series of meetings also included Salt Lake City, Utah. In 1979 two meetings were held with the Moffat County, Colorado, Commissioners and those who were invited to participate. A majority of those attending the 1976 meetings at Denver and Salt Lake City and an overall majority of 1976 meeting participants and those who turned in public opinion packets after the 1976 meetings strongly favored inclusion of the two rivers in the national system. A majority of these felt that segment B of the Green qualified as a scenic river area, and segment A as a wild river area. Many also called for the extension of the study area up the Yampa to include the Cross Mountain area, which they felt clearly qualified as a wild river area on the basis of scenery, geology, recreation, and fish and wildlife values.

A majority of those who commented on the draft statement also favored inclusion of the two rivers, again with a classification of "scenic" for the Brown's Park segment. Many specifically expressed their opposition to upstream dams on the Yampa, and felt that the last major undammed tributary in the Colorado River system should be preserved as a free-flowing river. They indicated the free-flowing values of the Yampa were important from recreational, ecological, and aesthetic standpoints, not merely in the study area, but down the length of the Green river, since it was the high flows of the Yampa which produced high flows on the Green for 400 miles (640 km) below the confluence of the two rivers.

On the other hand, participants in the 1976 and 1979 meetings in Craig, Colorado, were strongly opposed to designation of the Yampa and Green Rivers. Concern ran especially high about the Yampa, and the belief that designation would block development of the Juniper-Cross Mountain Project and other proposed water projects, and otherwise result in federal interference in local affairs--as noted earlier. Opinions expressed at the Vernal meetings were mixed, but overall mostly neutral or concerned with other issues.

A summary of the completed meeting packets is found in appendix C. All letters commenting on the draft report and environmental statement were read and logged, and most have been printed in the comments section of the final environmental statement.

No member agencies of the study team felt that the Red Canyon area (segment A of the Green) qualified as a wild river area. As noted elsewhere, there was some difference of opinion within the study team as to the appropriate classification for the Browns Park segment (segment B). However, after re-examining this issue and discussing the matter with the study team, the National Park Service concluded the Browns Park segment qualified as a scenic river area and recommends its classification as such.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The National Park Service, and prior to March of 1978, the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service (formerly the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation) shared leadership of this study with the Colorado Department of Natural Resources (Water Conservation Board) and the Utah Department of Natural Resources (Outdoor Recreation Agency). The National Park Service is indebted to these agencies and to member agencies of the study team, work group agencies and organizations, and to members of the concerned public. Without the leadership and participation of these agencies, groups, and individuals, it would not have been possible to adequately treat the major issues or assemble the multi-resource data in the report and environmental statement.

The viewpoints and opinions expressed by the public throughout the study process at meetings and through correspondence aided in the development and presentation of a range of alternative plans.

C H A P T E R II

R E G I O N A L D E S C R I P T I O N

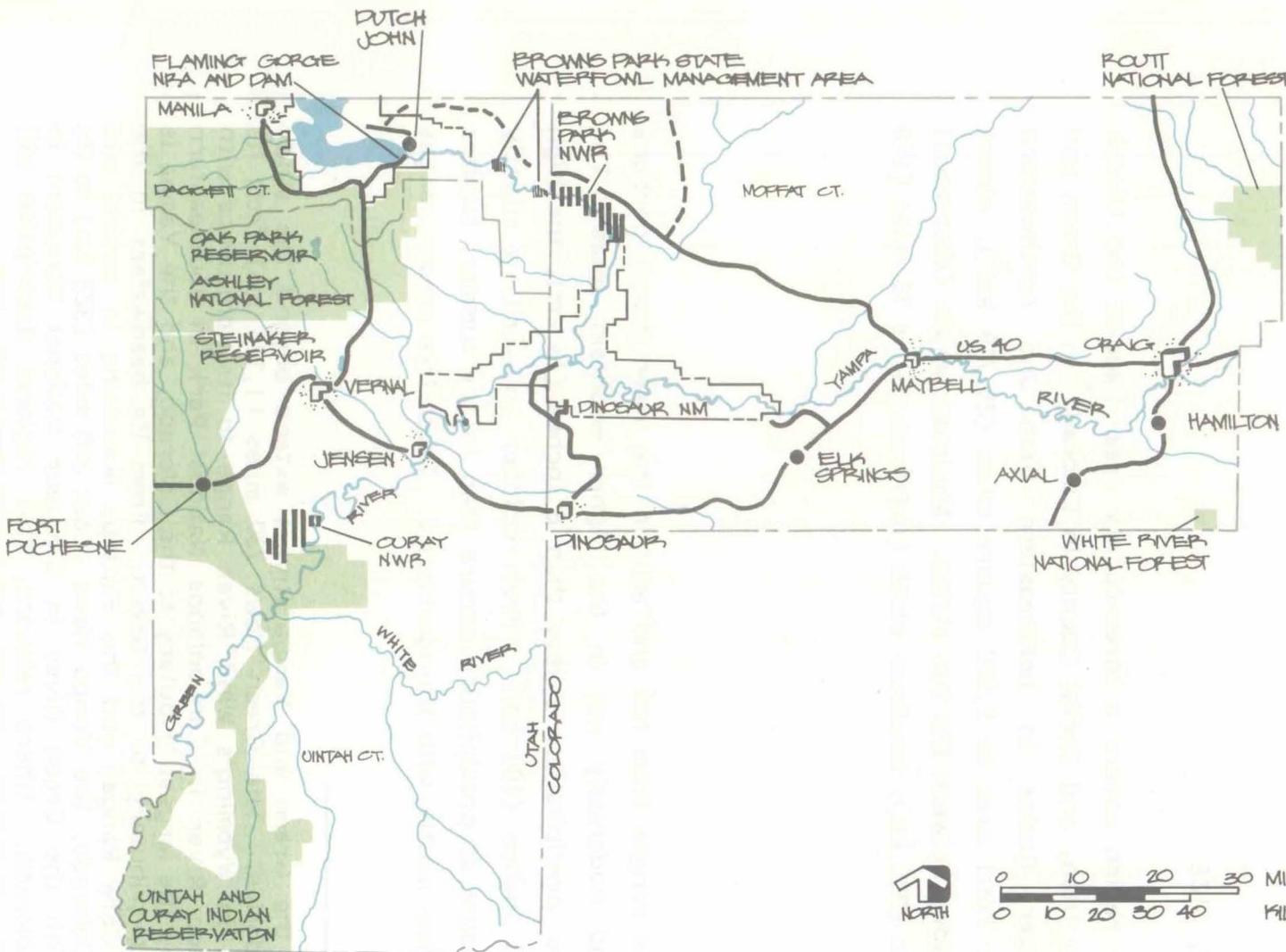
LOCATION, SIZE

The study region covers a three-county area--Daggett and Uintah Counties in Utah, and Moffat County in Colorado¹ in the Green and Yampa River Basins in northeastern Utah and northwestern Colorado. Total area is 9,930 square miles (25,719 km²), almost evenly divided between the two states. Maximum length (east-west) is 140 miles (225 km); maximum width (north-south) is 75 miles (120 km).

CLIMATE

The climate ranges from hot and arid in the lower desert portions to cool and moderately wet in the higher mountain areas. The average low precipitation is less than 6 inches (15 cm); the high exceeds 40 inches (100 cm). From October to April, a slightly greater amount of precipitation occurs than in the summer; summer rainfall comes mostly with thunderstorms. Frost-free season ranges

1. Both the Green and Yampa Rivers extend beyond the study area boundaries. The Green flows 730 miles (1,175 km) from its headwaters in Wyoming's Wind River Range to its confluence with the Colorado River in Canyonlands National Park in southeastern Utah. It is the largest tributary to the Colorado, and the Yampa is the largest tributary to the Green. From its headwaters in the Park and Gore Ranges and the Flattops Mountains in central and northern Colorado, the Yampa flows about 200 miles (322 km) to its meeting with the Green River in Dinosaur National Monument in western Colorado. Where relevant, this regional description will also include information from beyond the three-county area.



0 10 20 30 MILES
0 10 20 30 40 KILOMETERS

REGIONAL STUDY AREA

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from 20 days to more than 120. The eastern Uinta Mountains, situated in the northern portion of the region, are more arid than the western Uintas.

The climate along the Yampa and Green Rivers is slightly milder than that of the surrounding areas. Winter temperatures are normally mild; summers are warm but not overly hot, with daytime highs ranging in the 80s and the 90s and evening lows dipping into the 50s and even 40s.

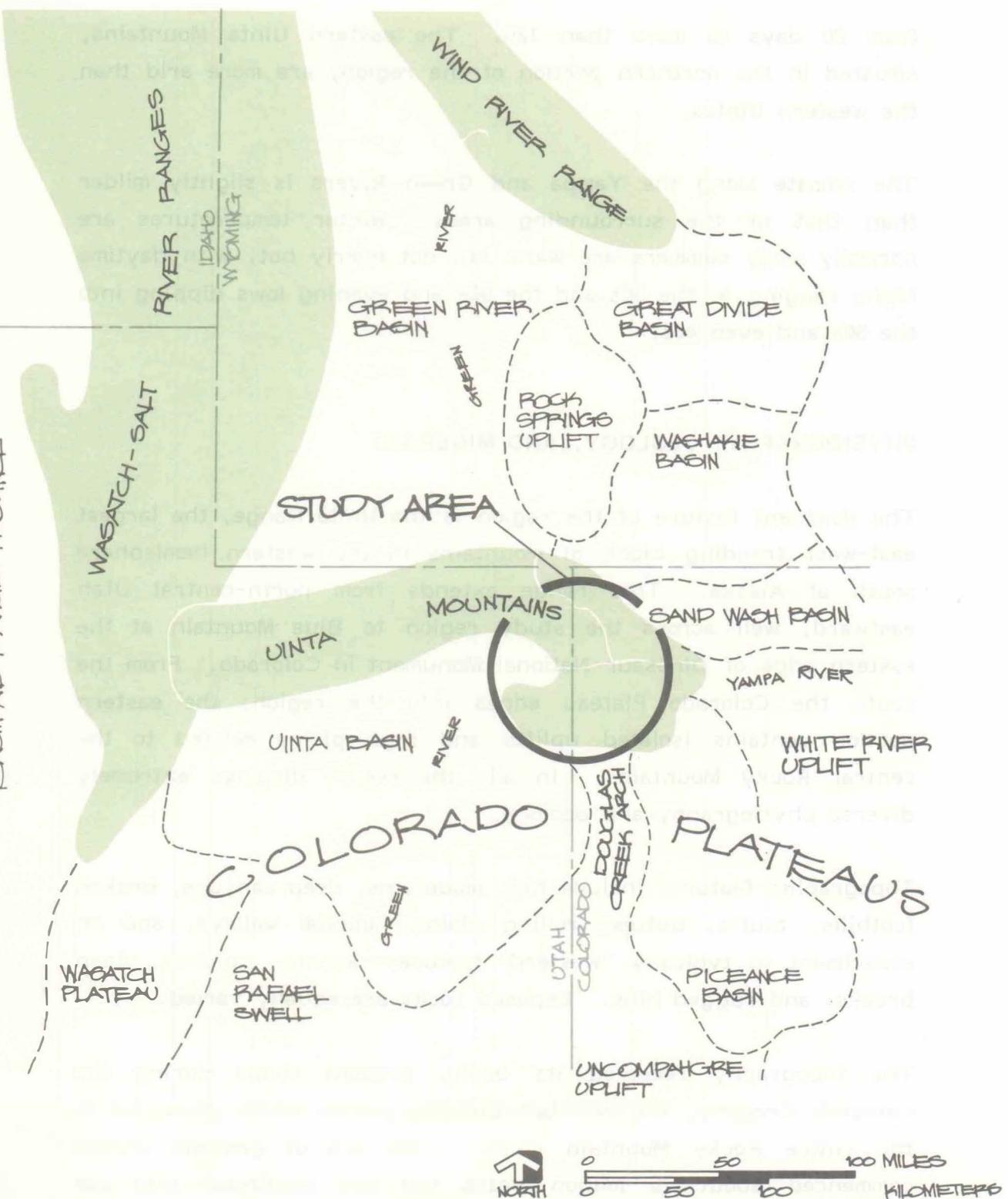
PHYSIOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY, AND MINERALS

The dominant feature of the region is the Uinta Range, the largest east-west trending block of mountains in the western hemisphere south of Alaska. This range extends from north-central Utah eastward, well across the study region to Blue Mountain at the eastern edge of Dinosaur National Monument in Colorado. From the south the Colorado Plateau edges into the region; the eastern portion contains isolated uplifts and high plains related to the central Rocky Mountains. In all, the region displays extremely diverse physiography and geology.

Topographic features include high mountains, deep canyons, broken foothills, bluffs, buttes, rolling plains, alluvial valleys, and an assortment of typically "western" features--washes, gulches, steep breaks, and rugged hills. Exposed rocks are equally varied.

The topography received its basic, present shape during the Laramide Orogeny, the mountain-building period which gave rise to the entire Rocky Mountain chain. This era of geologic unrest commenced about 70 million years ago and continued into the Tertiary Period, particularly the late Eocene Epoch (approximately 40 million years ago) when maximum elevation of the Uinta Range

BASIN AND RANGE PROVINCE



REGIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SETTING

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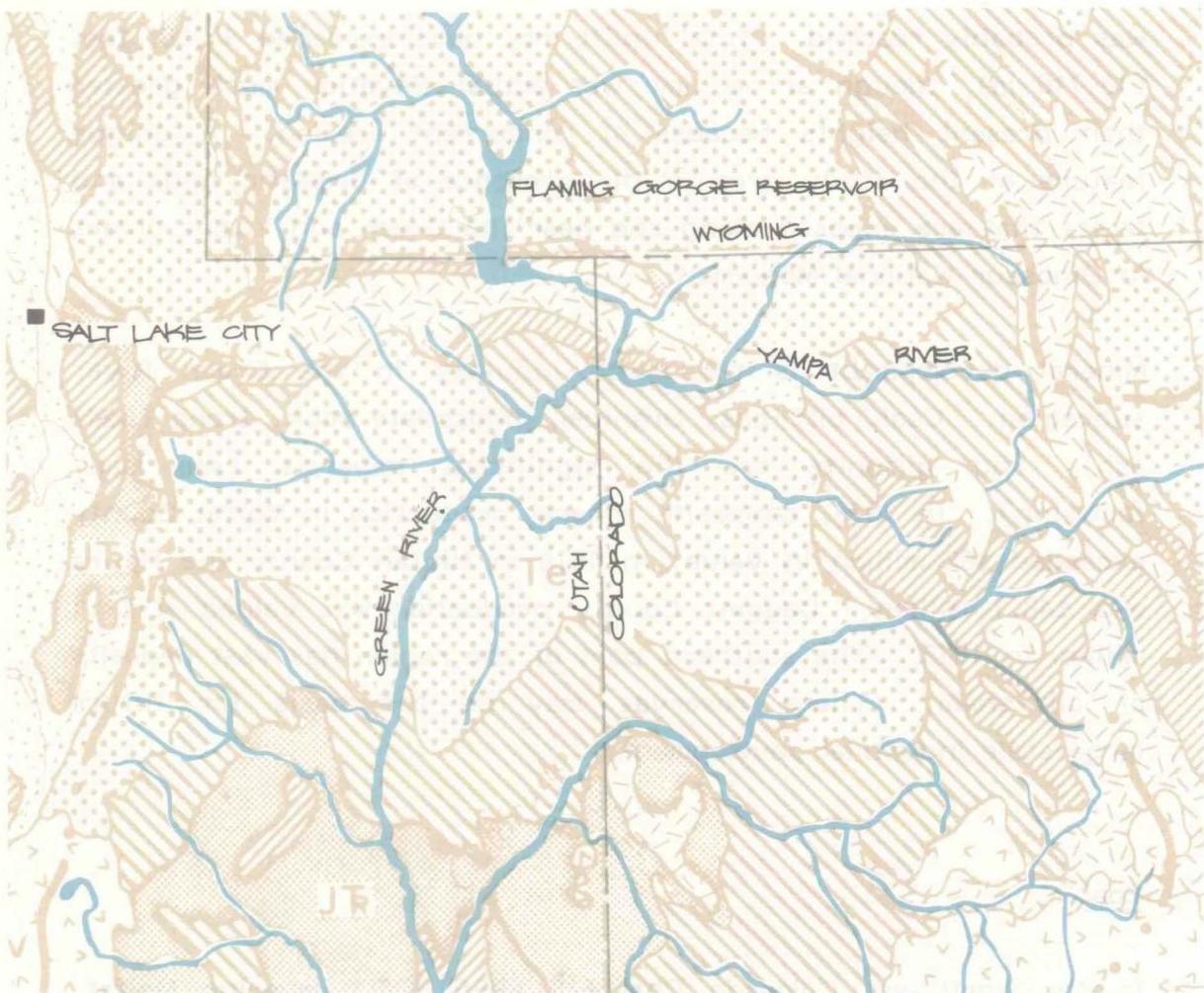
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was probably reached. Total uplift may have exceeded 45,000 feet (13,716 m), though at no time was actual elevation much greater than present heights because of concurrent erosion. A unique feature of the study area is the presence of dramatic folds and faults that are exposed along and near the Green and Yampa rivers in Dinosaur National Monument.

Mineral development is the major industry in the Green River subregion. Coal, oil, gas, uranium, phosphate rock, trona (soda ash), and gilsonite are the significant minerals (see map, following). In 1978, composite mineral production in Moffat County exceeded \$82 million in value; in 1974 in Uintah County the figure was \$48.1 million. Daggett County production was valued at \$1.1 million in 1973. The southern part of the region has vast deposits of oil shale. These reserves may be the basis for future large-scale industrial development.

Coal

In the Northwest Colorado Coal EIS (FES 77/1) covering Moffat, northern Rio Blanco, and western Routt Counties, the Bureau of Land Management has projected the following cumulative developments by 1990: 226 million tons (205 million metric tons) of coal produced, 14 coal mines, 3 power plants, 85 miles (127 km) of new railroads, 90 miles (145 km) of new roads, 350 miles (560 km) of new powerlines, and a population increase of 11,870. About 250,000 acres (100,000 ha) of land are involved in lease applications and industry nominations for additional coal leasing. Most of the coal development is southwest, southeast, and east of Craig, Colorado. Closest to the study area are two proposed developments near the White River in northern Rio Blanco County. BLM is also studying the potential for leases in the Williams Fork drainage, a tributary of the Yampa, southeast of Craig.



LEGEND

- QT QUATERNARY AND UPPER
TERTIARY SEDIMENTARY DEPOSITS
- TV TERTIARY VOLCANIC ROCKS
- Te LOWER TERTIARY FORMATIONS
- K CRETACEOUS FORMATIONS
- JT JURASSIC AND TRIASSIC
FORMATIONS
- P PALEOZOIC FORMATIONS
- PC PRECAMBRIAN ROCKS

REGIONAL GEOLOGY

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Several major coal development areas are being studied in southern Wyoming. One, the Savery Project, is in the upper Yampa River Basin. This 46,000-acre (18,620-ha) area has a potential of about 60 million tons (54 million metric tons) of coal production (mostly from underground mining) over a period of 30 years. Five other coal projects in southern Wyoming, all outside the regional study area, involve a potential of more than 380 million tons (345 million metric tons) of coal, with mine lives ranging from 16 to 40 years. None of these five projects would directly impact the wild and scenic river study area. Uintah County also has significant coal resources; Daggett County's coal reserves are negligible.

Oil and Gas

Most of Moffat County's oil fields are in its southeastern quarter; most of the gas fields are in the northern part of the county. Production has been increasing since the discovery of oil and gas in 1924. At the end of 1975, the county had 200 active wells in 23 fields. Production for that year was approximately 800,000 barrels of oil and 21,972,957 Mcf ($621,000 \text{ m}^3$) of gas.²

The Ashley Valley field near Jensen in Uintah County produced gas from 1925 to 1941. From 1948 to the present, the field has produced oil from the deeper Weber sandstone. The Altamont-Bluebell field in the western portion of the county is the largest oil-producing area in Utah. The Clay Basin gas field in Daggett County has 23 wells, with 5 in production. Daggett County production of gas and oil in 1975 was approximately 2,946,427 Mcf ($83,384 \text{ m}^3$) and 5831 barrels, respectively; Uintah

2. Colorado Oil and Gas Commission, Dept. Natural Resources,
1975 Oil and Gas Statistics (1976).

County produced 5,236,360 barrels of oil and 11,279,248 Mcf (399,000 m³) of gas in 1975.³ Many wildcat oil and gas drilling operations are active in southern Uintah County. The Overthrust Belt, the largest oil discovery in the United States since Prudhoe Bay in Alaska, is being developed in parts of northeastern Utah and western Wyoming. Major oil fields have been discovered on the west side of the Upper Green River basin, indicating that a substantial potential for future development exists. The Overthrust Belt is about 60 to 70 (95-110 km) miles north and west of the region described in this report.

Uranium

Uranium has been mined in Moffat County, near the town of Maybell, since 1953. Ores are of low grade and are found largely in lenticular bodies within the Browns Park formation. Potential (relatively low-grade) uranium mining areas are located near the Colorado-Utah border north of Rangely and in the area from the Wyoming border south to the vicinity of Craig and Maybell. The Energy Research and Development Administration (now the Department of Energy) has estimated "probable potential" resources at 55 million tons (50 million metric tons) of ore, containing 44 million pounds (20 million kg) of U₃O₈. Recent price escalation has changed some of the potential resources to the economically mineable category. A heap leaching mill using old tailings has recently opened at Maybell, Colorado.

3. Yearly summary in Monthly Oil and Gas Production Report, Utah Oil, Gas, and Mining Division, December 1975.

Oil Shale

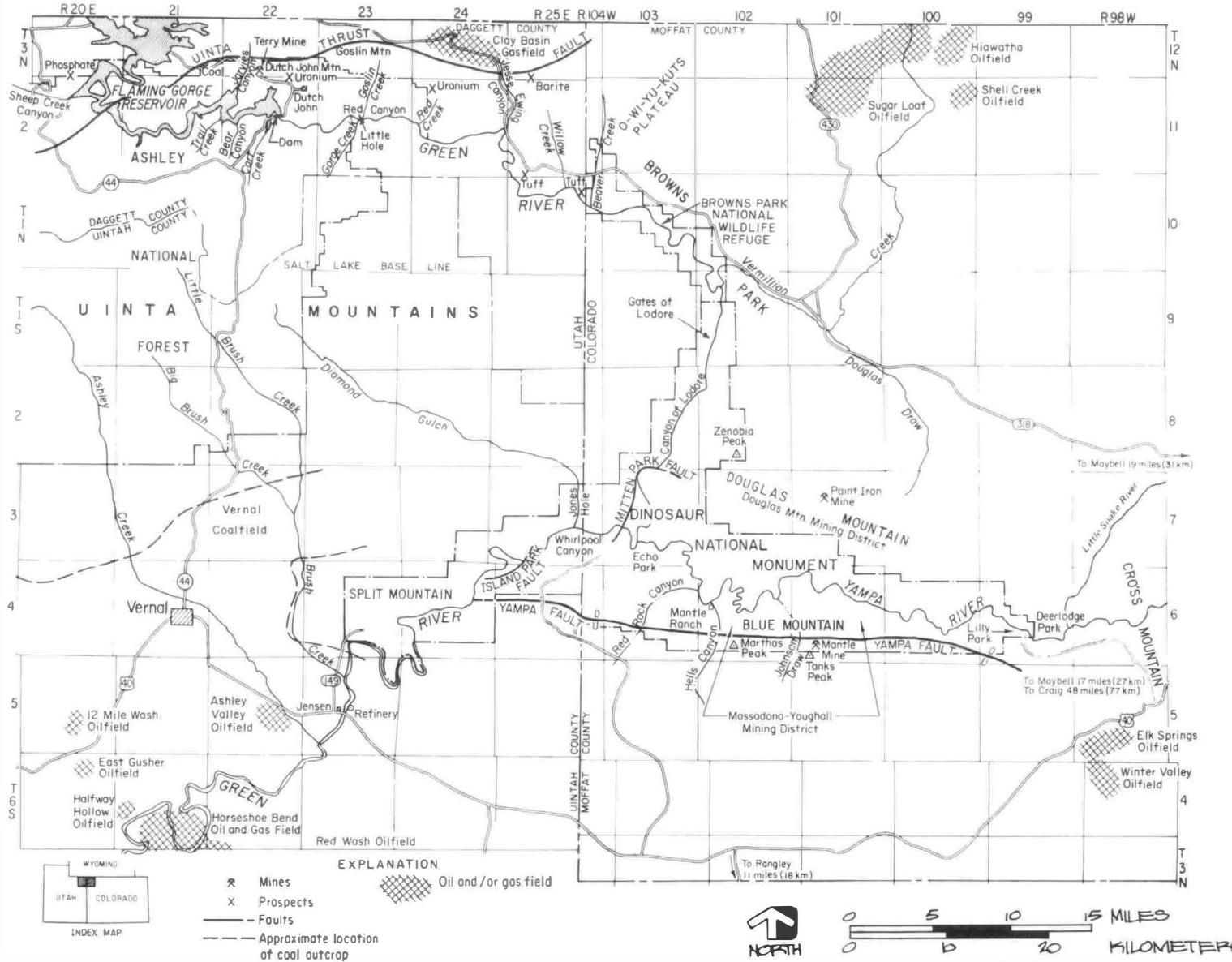
Although oil shale in the Green River Formation of Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming contains the world's greatest potential reserve of oil, there has been no significant development to date. A nationally significant oil shale development area is situated in the Piceance Creek basin of Rio Blanco County, south of the regional study area. Certain production methods would require large amounts of water, part of which might be taken from the Yampa River basin by trans-basin diversion. However, the Paraho process, which seems promising, would require less water, making it less likely that Yampa River flows would be affected. The Piceance Creek basin of Colorado and Utah has a total estimated potential of 600 billion barrels of shale oil [in beds 10 feet (3m) or more in thickness, containing 25 or more gallons per ton], of which about 480 billion barrels are estimated to lie in Colorado.⁴

Large oil shale deposits have also been reserved by the U.S. Navy in southwestern Uintah County, Utah. A large area is withdrawn northwest of Maybell, Colorado in the Sand Wash Basin. In Utah's Uinta Basin and at Rifle, Colorado, a limited amount of shale oil is being produced on a test basis.

Other Minerals

Extensive bituminous tar sand deposits have been identified in Asphalt Ridge southwest of Vernal, Utah (Uintah County); deposits

4. Information provided by Stephen Utter, oil shale specialist with the Bureau of Mines, by memo of Feb. 8, 1979.



0 5 10 15 MILES

0 5 10 20 KILOMETERS

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south of the White River might contain 3.7-4 billion recoverable barrels. Phosphate is produced near Brush Creek north of Vernal and gilsonite is mined at several sites in Uintah County. Zinc, copper, iron, gold and other metallic minerals have been found in the Dinosaur National Monument area; all are uneconomical to produce. The Browns Park Formation contains great quantities of tuff (volcanic ash). Promising deposits are also found along the Green River in Daggett County, Utah.

SOILS

Four (of a total of 10) soil orders are found in Moffat County, Colorado--Alfisols, Aridisols, Entisols, and Mollisols. Most common are the Entisols, mineral soils with weak or undeveloped pedogenic horizons. Aridisols, the second largest soil group, are mineral soils of relatively low organic matter content that have inadequate moisture to mature a crop without irrigation in most years. Mollisols, the next most common, are mineral soils relatively rich in organic matter, with a thick, dark surface horizon; they have a high base saturation throughout. The smallest group is Alfisols, soils of low organic matter and relatively high base saturation; alluvial horizons of silicate clays are present, and sufficient moisture is usually available to mature a crop.

In Utah, intensive soil mapping is currently underway in the region and the study corridor. Soils include Mollisols, Entisols, Aridisols, and Inceptisols.

Because of a general lack of comparability between soils maps covering Moffat County in Colorado and Daggett and Uintah Counties in Utah, it was not possible to prepare a meaningful regional soils map. However, a study corridor soils map is found in Chapter III.

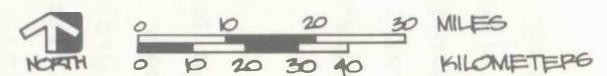
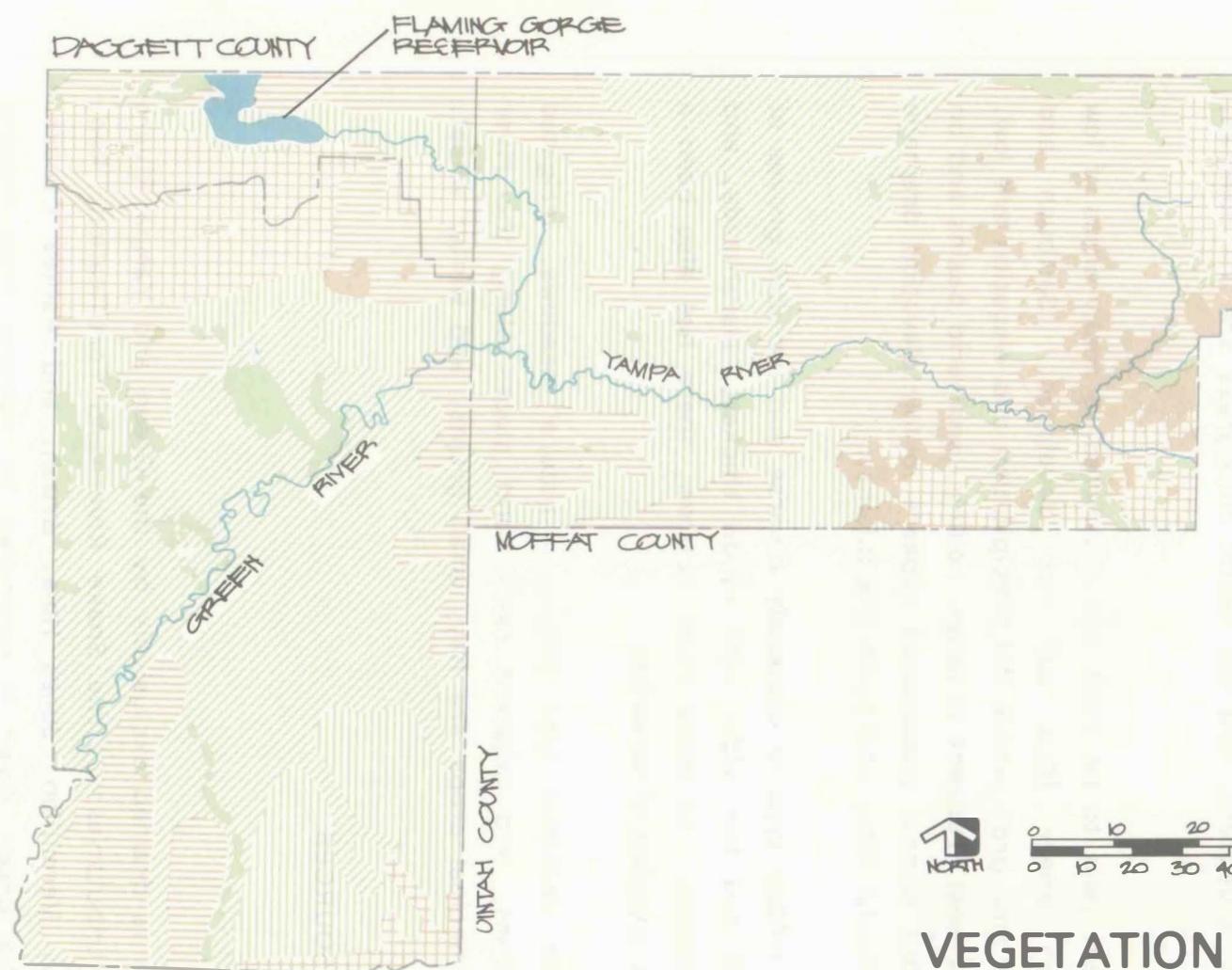
VEGETATION

The region's vegetation is the complex result of such environmental factors as climate, slope, altitude, and soils, as well as livestock grazing and other land uses. In general, nine primary and two secondary vegetative types are present. The following review begins high in the subalpine life zone and proceeds to the lower zones which are drier and have longer growing seasons.

Except for pinon pine, which extends down to 6,000 feet (1,800 m), coniferous trees are generally marginal except at elevations above 8,500 feet (2,600 m) in the Uinta Range, where soils are cooler and precipitation is relatively high. Conifers tend to be more common on north-facing slopes. Dominant species are the Douglas-fir, subalpine fir, and Engelmann spruce, in addition to substantial stands of ponderosa pine. Stands of aspen are often intermingled with conifers at high elevations where fires have caused secondary succession.

At lower elevations, the mountain shrub type develops where moisture is sufficient. Common plant species are the Utah serviceberry, western serviceberry, and Gambel oak. Also common are the mountain mahogany, bitterbrush, and chokecherry. In one area of north-central Moffat County, the sagebrush association occupies about 1,500 square miles (4000 km^2). Basin big sagebrush, Wyoming big sagebrush, low sagebrush, and black sagebrush are common to this diversely distributed type--the only association found adjacent to all other types in the study region.

The pinon-juniper type is present where precipitation is similar to that required by sagebrush, but where the soils are shallow. Utah juniper, Rocky Mountain juniper, and pinon pine form an open overstory. Northern Colorado and Utah mark the northernmost extension of pinon.



VEGETATION COVER TYPES

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Grassland sites vary from deep soil areas to wet mountain meadows to dry, rocky hillsides. Meadows are small, as are grassland patches on windswept ridges and uppermost south-facing slopes. Western wheatgrass, needle-and-thread grass, Indian ricegrass, June grass, bluegrass, and the exotic cheatgrass are the dominant species.

Barren areas tend to be small and restricted to rocky areas of low precipitation where little soil has developed. Saltbush and greasewood also grow where the precipitation and elevation are low. Saltbush is most frequent in large, rolling, semi-arid basins and on lower foothill slopes; greasewood appears in low elevation drainage bottoms, alluvial fans, and basin floodplains.

The river bottom type is extremely diverse and includes groves of cottonwoods and box elder with willow thickets, marshlands, and open grasslands. In many river bottoms, there has also been a widespread invasion of tamarisk.

Finally, the cropland type grows in natural meadows, irrigated valley bottoms, and adjacent mesas and slopes along the river basins. Principal crops are hay, small grains, and winter wheat.

WATER RESOURCES

Flow

The region is drained exclusively by the Green and Yampa Rivers and small tributaries: Little Snake River and Fortification, Red, Strawberry, Vermillion, Jones Hole, Brush, and Ashley Creeks. Flow in the Green River is controlled by releases from Flaming Gorge Dam; the main stem of the Yampa, however, is the largest undammed tributary in the Colorado River Basin. Flow data for the



The north-facing slope of Red Canyon on the Green supports both the pinyon-juniper community and stands of Douglas-fir. NPS |



Flaming Gorge Dam, a part of the Colorado River Storage Project just above segment A, stores almost 4,000,000 acre-feet (4,890 million m³) of water. NPS

Green River below Flaming Gorge Dam, the Yampa River at Maybell [33 river miles (53 km) upstream from the east boundary of Dinosaur National Monument], and the Little Snake River near Lily, Colorado [10 miles (16.1 km) upstream from its mouth] are displayed on tables II-1, II-2, and II-3. The Yampa in the monument has an average annual flow of about 1,567,000 acre-feet (1.8 billion m³), or about 2,160 cfs (61 m³/s). The Green above the Yampa has an average annual flow of about 1,650,000 acre-feet (2 billion m³), or about 2,280 cfs (65 m³/s).

Depletions, Water Use⁵

The average annual depletion in the entire Yampa River basin and in the Green River as it flows throughout the three-county region is approximately 175,000 acre-feet (216 million m³).⁶

The major consumptive use is for irrigation, which accounts for about 50 percent of the total depletion. There are over 2,100 active irrigation water rights in the Yampa-Green River Basin in Colorado and Wyoming and several hundred more within the Green River drainage in Daggett and Uintah counties.

Other consumptive use includes that for non-crop areas incidental to irrigation, i.e., grazing, timber, and recreation; domestic and

5. Because activities and conditions on the Yampa River east of the three-county region and upstream to the headwaters may impact the immediate study area, this and the following four sections on water treat the entire Yampa River Basin. See footnote 1.

6. Estimates are for water consumptively used. Water diverted from streams and rivers and thereafter returned is not included; neither are natural depletions such as those by forests, riparian vegetation, native pasture, range vegetation, natural lake evaporation, wildlife, or seepage.

Table II-1

Average Monthly and Annual Flow, Green River at Greendale, Utah
Water Years 1970-1976

Water Year	October		November		December		January		February		March	
	ft ³ /s	m ³ /s										
1970	2,098	59.4	2,173	61.5	3,183	90.1	1,639	46.4	1,397	39.6	1,319	37.5
1971	960	26.2	1,111	31.5	1,304	36.9	903	25.6	773	21.9	781	22.1
1972	1,911	54.1	2,878	81.5	3,257	92.2	2,762	78.2	2,925	82.8	1,662	47.1
1973	3,168	89.7	3,621	102.6	3,626	102.7	3,578	101.3	3,651	103.4	1,834	51.9
1974	2,402	68.0	2,591	73.4	2,533	71.7	2,068	58.6	808	22.9	826	23.4
1975	2,928	82.9	2,476	70.1	2,412	68.3	2,509	71.1	2,941	83.3	1,598	45.3
1976	1,403	39.7	2,115	59.9	3,449	97.7	2,906	82.3	1,930	54.7	1,760	49.8
Average	2,124	60.0	2,423	68.6	2,823	79.9	2,337	66.2	2,061	58.4	1,398	39.6
Percent	8%		9%		10%		9%		8%		5%	

Water Year	April		May		June		July		August		September		Yearly Avg.	
	ft ³ /s	m ³ /s												
1970	1,826	51.7	1,045	29.6	1,465	41.5	1,937	54.8	2,070	58.6	1,965	55.6	1,847	52.3
1971	1,355	38.4	1,457	41.3	1,673	47.4	1,899	53.8	2,453	69.5	2,283	64.7	1,416	40.1
1972	2,348	66.5	3,973	112.5	3,188	90.3	2,944	83.4	2,620	74.2	1,566	44.4	2,670	75.6
1973	1,038	29.4	2,612	74.0	3,170	89.8	2,710	76.8	3,426	97.0	2,517	71.3	2,910	82.4
1974	1,010	28.6	2,966	84.0	2,215	62.7	1,415	40.1	2,225	63.0	2,369	67.1	1,961	55.5
1975	1,046	29.6	1,440	40.8	3,454	97.8	4,324	122.5	3,218	91.1	1,581	44.8	2,494	70.6
1976	2,321	65.7	4,212	119.3	3,568	101.1	2,793	79.1	2,627	74.4	2,695	76.3	2,652	75.1
Average	1,563	44.3	2,529	71.6	2,676	75.8	2,574	72.9	2,662	75.4	2,139	60.6	2,279	64.5
Percent	6%		9%		10%		9%		10%		8%			

Table II-2

Average Monthly and Annual Flow, Yampa River at Maybell, Colorado
Water Years 1970-1976

Water Year	October		November		December		January		February		March	
	ft ³ /s	m ³ /s										
1970	450	12.7	412	11.6	360	10.2	350	9.9	394	11.2	489	13.8
1971	470	13.3	437	12.4	345	9.8	374	10.6	384	10.9	1,081	30.6
1972	306	8.7	355	10.1	310	8.8	347	9.8	436	12.4	1,175	33.3
1973	400	11.3	382	10.8	351	9.9	305	8.6	28.0	428	12.1	
1974	250	7.1	338	9.6	357	10.1	308	8.7	271	7.7	577	16.3
1975	207	5.9	280	7.9	138	3.9	220	6.2	298	8.4	458	13.0
1976	247	6.0	298	8.4	272	7.7	246	7.0	343	9.7	531	15.0
Average	333	9.3	357	10.1	305	8.6	307	8.7	344	9.8	677	19.2
Percent	2%		2%		2%		2%		2%		3%	

Water Year	April		May		June		July		August		September		Yearly Avg.	
	ft ³ /s	m ³ /s												
1970	1,374	38.9	8,302	235.0	7,449	211.0	1,992	56.4	442	12.5	287	8.1	1,865	52.8
1971	4,649	131.7	6,401	181.3	7,756	219.7	1,901	53.8	320	9.1	254	7.2	2,031	57.0
1972	2,116	59.9	4,248	120.3	4,872	138.0	538	15.2	151	4.3	197	5.6	1,252	35.5
1973	1,626	46.1	7,689	217.8	6,022	170.5	2,128	60.3	517	14.6	205	5.8	1,702	48.2
1974	3,775	106.9	9,695	274.6	6,208	175.8	1,236	35.0	38.9	89	2.5	1,958	55.5	
1975	1,566	44.4	5,439	154.0	7,270	205.9	3,388	96.0	509	14.4	180	5.1	1,667	47.2
1976	1,463	41.4	5,011	141.9	3,712	105.1	997	28.2	357	10.1	165	4.7	1,138	32.2
Average	2,367	67.7	6,684	189.3	6,227	175.1	1,740	49.3	373	10.6	197	5.6	1,659	46.9
Percent	12%		34%		31%		9%		2%		1%			

Table II-3

Average Monthly and Annual Flow, Little Snake River Near Lily, Colorado
Water Years 1970-1976

Water Year	October		November		December		January		February		March	
	ft ³ /s	m ³ /s										
1970	148	4.2	135	3.8	86	2.4	94	2.7	190	5.4	241	6.8
1971	183	5.2	167	4.7	133	3.8	141	4.0	159	4.5	612	17.3
1972	123	3.5	147	4.2	154	4.4	140	4.0	424	12.0	752	21.3
1973	73	2.1	153	4.3	106	3.0	100	2.8	91	2.6	127	3.6
1974	98	2.8	166	4.7	132	3.7	106	3.0	113	3.2	189	5.4
1975	57	1.6	104	2.9	78	2.2	71	2.0	96	2.7	246	7.0
1976	88	2.5	134	3.8	139	3.9	124	3.5	330	9.3	419	11.9
Average	110	3.1	144	4.1	118	3.4	111	3.1	200	5.7	369	10.5
Percent	1%		2%		2%		1%		3%		5%	

Water Year	April		May		June		July		August		September		Yearly Avg.	
	ft ³ /s	m ³ /s												
1970	651	18.4	3,503	99.2	2,979	84.4	464	13.1	43	1.2	63	1.8	716	20.3
1971	1,607	45.5	3,370	95.5	3,606	102.2	584	16.5	25	0.7	55	1.6	887	25.1
1972	808	22.9	1,697	48.1	1,625	46.0	102	2.9	7	0.2	3	0.1	499	14.1
1973	1,061	30.1	3,572	101.2	2,517	71.3	586	16.6	109	13.1	84	2.4	715	20.3
1974	1,073	30.4	4,140	117.3	2,540	72.0	281	8.0	48	1.4	7	0.2	741	21.0
1975	409	11.6	2,605	73.8	2,526	71.6	758	21.5	119	3.4	76	2.2	595	16.9
1976	653	18.5	2,374	67.2	1,695	46.6	296	8.4	68	1.9	9	0.3	524	14.9
Average	895	5.3	3,037	86.0	2,491	70.6	439	12.4	60	1.7	42	1.2	669	18.9
Percent	11%		38%		31%		5%		1%		1%			

municipal use, mostly in the Vernal area, which takes about 2,000 acre-feet (2.5 million m³) per year from the Green River; export through three transbasin diversions from the Yampa Basin, which accounts for an annual depletion of about 10,800 acre-feet (13.3 million m³); evaporation losses from reservoirs [about 80,000 acre-feet (98.7 million m³), mostly from Flaming Gorge Reservoir]; livestock watering; and industrial use. This last use accounts for recent significant increases in depletion from the Yampa River Basin and from the Green River below its confluence with the Yampa. A coal-fired, steam electric generating plant, with a consumptive use of 3,300 acre-feet (4 million m³) per year, began operating at Hayden, Colorado 17 miles (27.4 km) east of Craig in mid-1975. Unit 2 of the Hayden plant started operations in 1976 and uses 5,000 acre-feet (6.2 million m³) annually. Units 1 and 2 of the Colorado-Ute Electric Association plant near Craig will soon be on line, producing about 700 MW; Unit 3 is being planned. Units 1 and 2 will use about 5,000 acre-feet per year.

Water Quality

See "Water Quality" in chapter III.

The "Law of the River"

The Green, Yampa and tributaries are subject to two interstate compacts. The first, the Colorado River Compact of 1922, split the waters of the Colorado River System between the states of the Upper Basin and Lower Basin, dividing them at Compact Point (near Lees Ferry, Arizona, about 15 miles or 24 km below Glen Canyon Dam). The compact of 1922 allotted to the Upper Basin 7.5 million-acre feet (9.25 billion m³) of water per year for consumptive use, after deliveries of an equivalent amount to the Lower Basin

were made. By later treaty, Mexico is allotted 1.5 million acre-feet (1.85 billion m³) per year; delivery requirements are shared by the Upper and Lower Basins. By the Upper Colorado River Compact of 1948, the Upper Basin States (Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, New Mexico, and Arizona) apportioned the Upper Basin's allotment of consumptive use among themselves, with 50,000 acre-feet (62 million m³) to Arizona, and to the other states the following:

Colorado	-	51.75 percent
New Mexico	-	11.25 percent
Utah	-	23 percent
Wyoming	-	14 percent

The Upper Colorado River Compact contains two articles dealing with the waters of the Yampa and tributaries - Article XI, which covers the use of the Little Snake River by Colorado and Wyoming and Article XIII, which divides the waters of the Yampa between Colorado and Utah. This article provides that Colorado will not diminish the flows of the Yampa at the Maybell gaging station below 5,000,000 acre-feet (6.2 billion m³), measured in running ten-year series.

The original compact based its division of the flows of the Colorado on what is now known to have been a particularly wet cycle. In recent decades, the flow of the river has been less. Since Lower Basin and Mexican allocations must be satisfied before the Upper Basin can consume its share, the amount of water available for the Upper Basin states to share is less than the 7.5 million acre-feet (9.25 billion m³) allotted them; it is estimated that their actual share is in the neighborhood of 5.8 million acre-feet (7.15 billion m³).⁷ Each of the states may develop its water on any of its

7. Critical Water Problems Facing the Eleven Western States (The Westwide Water Study.) Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. (1975).

tributaries to the Colorado. Colorado, for instance, is estimated in the Westwide Study to have about 750,000 acre-feet (925 million m³) per year of its allotment undeveloped and available; the rest is either already used consumptively or unavailable due to the required deliveries to the Lower Basin. The development of this water on a particular tributary, once the state's allotment is nearly reached, will preclude it on others.

Within their borders, Colorado and other Western states administer their water by an appropriation system of water law. When water is insufficient to supply all holders of water rights, the right which is first in time to have applied the water to beneficial use may "call the others out of priority," i.e., cause the junior diversions to be discontinued and command the stream to fulfill the priority right.

Colorado also provides for conditional rights; a project requiring years for completion may apply for adjudication to have the rights registered though the project is not complete. When the project's water is actually applied to beneficial use, the priority date is related back to the date of first filing. Such unperfected rights must be maintained by a quadrennial showing of due diligence, or they are lost. Wyoming's and Utah's systems are similar, except that in Wyoming the State Engineer must find that the project is in the public interest and that there is water available for it, before a permit for the project can be issued.

Reserved Water Rights

Through the Colorado water court, the federal government has received a right to waters flowing through Dinosaur National Monument. However, the right has not yet been quantified and the decision by the District Court is being appealed to the Colorado

Supreme Court at present on several points in the District Court's decision. It has been held by the courts that federal reservations, such as national parks, forests, and Indian reservations, have a right to water sufficient to accomplish the purposes for which they were established. The priority date is the date of reservation, which for most of the monument is 1938.

A special water master (Colorado Water Division 6) awarded the federal government flows sufficient for the purposes for which the monument was established. The District Court generally upheld the water master's ruling, and ordered the claimant to quantify the amounts sought. The National Park Service intends to complete its quantification and explanation by 1983, or earlier.

Pending the results of studies underway at present, it is not possible to state what portion of the flows of the Yampa River will be requested, nor to predict the outcome of the case in court. Because the date for establishment of the portion of the monument containing the Yampa is 1938, and most of the proposed water project developments upstream (see Table 11-4) have junior dates for their priorities, resolution of this case could make it uneconomical to develop the projects. Exercise of the monument right could call the project rights out of priority, depending on the amounts of flow awarded by the courts and the timing of those flows.

Existing and Proposed Water Developments

The largest water development in the region is Flaming Gorge Dam on the Green River. This 502-foot-high (153-m) structure, located in Red Canyon, backs up the Green River for 91 miles (145 km) when full. Total area at capacity is 42,020 acres (17,010 ha); reservoir storage capacity ranges from 2,804,000 acre-feet (3,460

million m³) at elevation 6,015 feet (1,833.4 m) to 3,749,000 acre-feet (4,624 million m³) at elevation 6,040 feet (1,841 m). About 92 percent is usable storage. The dam, completed in 1964 by the Bureau of Reclamation (now the Water and Power Resources Service) for the purposes of irrigation, power generation, flood control, and recreation, is a major feature of the Colorado River Storage Project. The penstock intake structures of the dam have been modified to permit warmer releases and thus improve the downstream trout fishery.

The Water and Power Resources Service's (WPRS) authorized Central Utah Project is the largest water resource development program ever undertaken in Utah. Three units of the project involve portions of Uintah County, although they will have no direct effect on any part of the wild and scenic river study reach. The Vernal Unit, which supplies irrigation water and involves a 38,000 acre-feet (46.9 million m³) reservoir near Vernal, Utah, was completed in 1962. Development of the Jensen and Uintah Units, which will provide irrigation, municipal and industrial water to areas near Jensen, Ouray, Roosevelt, and Whiterock, was initiated in 1977 and 1978.

The WPRS' Colorado River Basin Peaking Power Investigations study has considered three possibilities that would increase the hydroelectric peaking power output at Flaming Gorge Dam; of these three, the first two have not been included in a newly authorized feasibility study of increasing peaking power in the Colorado River Basin. Following are the three peaking power possibilities that have been considered.

1. Flaming Gorge Pump-Storage Project: With this 1,000 megawatt proposal, Flaming Gorge Reservoir would serve as a forebay, while an afterbay reservoir would be required in the vicinity of or just above Indian Crossing, at the lower end of the Red Canyon

segment. This would involve construction of a 105-foot (32 m) high dam which would serve as a regulating structure with constant releases of approximately 1,800 cfs ($51 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$). Peak releases of about 5 hours duration from Flaming Gorge Reservoir would be extremely high--as much as 42,500 cfs ($1,200 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$). This would result in the virtual loss of the Red Canyon segment of the Green River. This proposal has been dropped because of adverse impacts and high costs, but it might be reconsidered at a later date.

2. Modification of Flaming Gorge Dam Penstocks: The dam penstocks would be modified to accommodate a greater flow, and thus 129 megawatts of additional peaking power would be produced. A 65-foot (19.8 m) high reregulating dam and reservoir would be built below Flaming Gorge Reservoir near Little Hole Campground. This reservoir would release steady flows of approximately 1,800 cfs ($51 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$). This project would decrease the time period of high flows, while increasing present high flows from about 4,000 cfs ($113.3 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$) to approximately 5,000 cfs ($140 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$). The volume of low flows would be reduced, while the time duration would be increased. This proposal would adversely affect recreation use and fisheries between Flaming Gorge Dam and the reregulation reservoir. This proposal has been dropped due to adverse impacts and high costs, but it also could be reconsidered later.

3. Installing Power Generation Capacity on Flaming Gorge Dam Outlet Works: Water is released only periodically through the dam outlet works, but if turbines were installed, hydroelectric power could be produced when such releases are made. An estimated 40 megawatts of power could be so produced. This proposal would not involve an afterbay or reregulating reservoir. However, as above, the volume of high flows would be increased to about 5,000 cfs ($140 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$), while the duration of high flows would be reduced. The volume of low flows would be reduced, while the duration would be increased. This project would adversely impact recreation use and

fisheries below Flaming Gorge Dam, principally in the Red Canyon and Browns Park segments, but also to some extent below this. As noted earlier, this modification has been included in a more detailed feasibility study of potential peaking power projects in the Colorado River Basin.

In the Yampa River Basin, there are about 50 relatively small impoundments on tributaries with a total capacity of about 150,000 acre-feet (185 million m³). About 30 reservoirs of varying size have been proposed in the Yampa River Basin. Capacities range from Hayden Reservoir on Sage Creek (8,600 acre-feet or 11 million m³) to the Juniper-Cross Mountain Project on the Yampa main stem (1,222,000 acre-feet or 1,507 million m³). Table II-4 lists significant proposed reservoirs for which limited information is available; the map, following, shows approximate reservoir locations.

These projects are in various stages of planning, assessment, and evaluation. Not all of them can be built, for some overlap at near-identical sites and the aggregate would develop more water than is available.

Following are brief descriptions of several proposed or potential projects. These are the largest of those on which information is available.

Map Key 3 - Cheyenne Water Supply Project: The City of Cheyenne diverts municipal water from Douglas Creek, a tributary of the North Platte River, with a priority right of 1954. Since the waters of the North Platte are fully appropriated, the city must replace the water it diverts with water from the basin of the Little Snake, a tributary of the Yampa River, which is available under Wyoming's compact allocation for the Colorado River Basin. Stage 1 of the project diverts about 7,400 acre-feet (9.1 million m³) a year, mostly during the spring runoff. This water is taken from tributaries to the Little Snake River in south-central Wyoming and diverted by pipeline beneath the continental divide, into the drainage of Hog Park Creek, tributary to the Encampment River (which is in turn tributary to the North Platte). The city has proposed increasing these diversions by about 23,000 acre-feet (28.4 million m³) of water per year, in Stage II of the project. The increased diversions will be stored in Hog Park Reservoir on the Encampment, and Rob Roy Reservoir on Douglas Creek. Several alternatives to the project are being considered by the Forest Service, which is preparing an environmental statement on the project; none of the alternatives appears as economically feasible as the project outlined above.

Stage III of the project would increase transmountain diversions approximately 10,000 to 25,000 acre-feet (12.3-30.8 million m³) per year. Detailed planning on this proposed expansion has not yet been done.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has initiated consultation with the Forest Service about Stage II of the project, under the provisions of Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. This consultation procedure will result in a biological opinion of the effects of the project on endangered species. It is not known what the opinion will state.

TABLE II-4
POTENTIAL WATER DEVELOPMENT RESERVOIRS IN YAMPA RIVER BASIN*

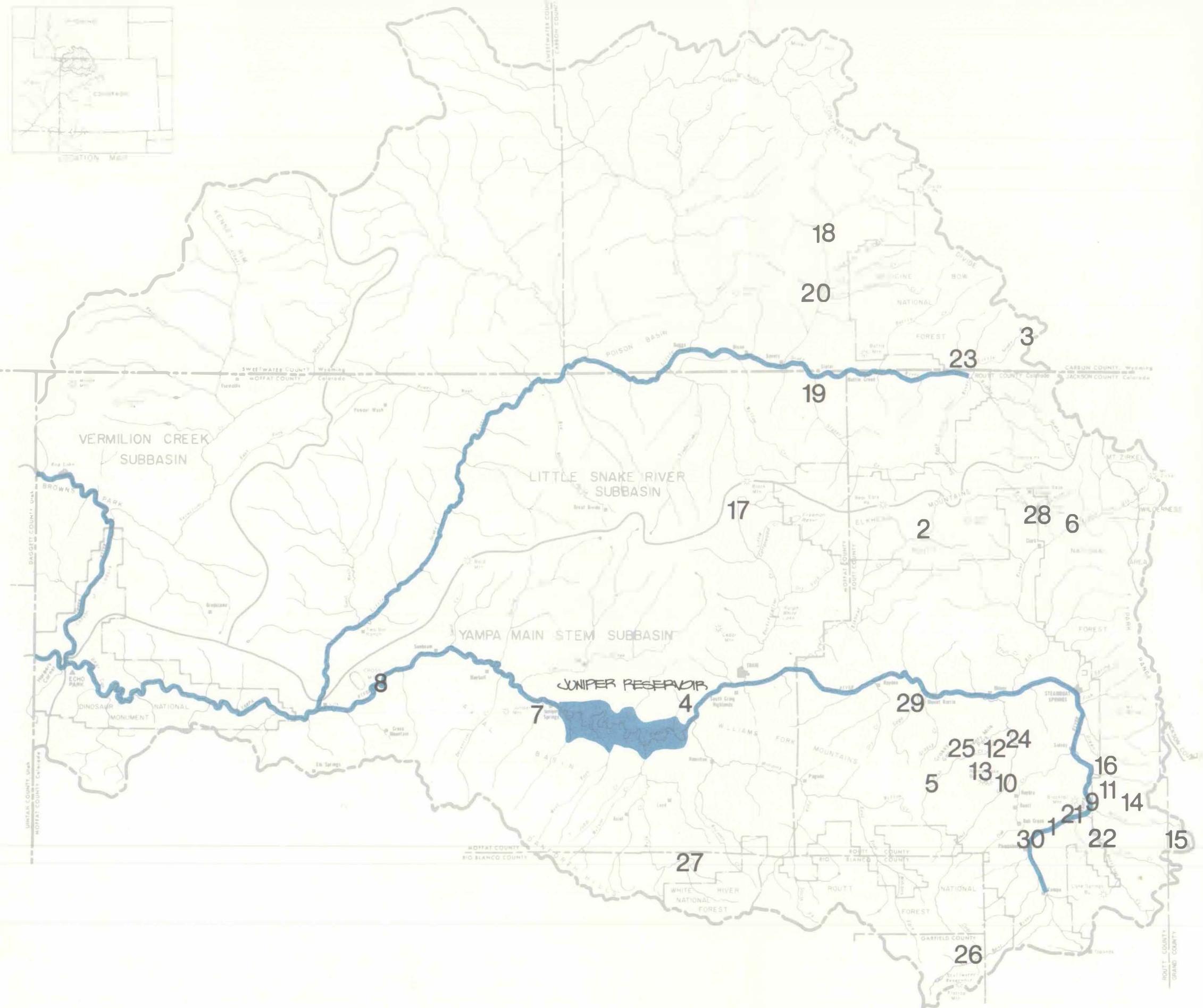
Map Key	Project Name	Capacity Acre-feet	Principal Use	Decree Held By	Date of Decree	Map Key	Project Name	Capacity Acre-feet	Principal Use	Decree Held by	Date of Decree	
1	Bear	11,600 (14 million m ³)	Irrigation	CRWCD ¹	9/30/61	16	Pleasant Valley	43,200 (53 million m ³)	Irrigation	CRWCD	6/29/59	
2	California Park	36,000 (44 million m ³)	Irrigation	CRWCD	8/7/62	17	Rampart	12,100 (15 million m ³)	Irrigation	CRWCD	8/7/62	
3	Cheyenne Water Supply (in Wyoming)	n/a	Municipal	CC ²	1954	18	Savory (in Wyoming)	18,680 (28 million m ³)	Irrigation	WPRS ⁵	8/23/55	
4	Craig	44,500 (55 million m ³)	Power	UC&MC ³	--		<u>Savory-Pot Hook</u>					
5	Duckley	57,100 (70 million m ³)	Irrigation	PSC ⁴	7/20/63	19	Pot Hook Res.	60,000 (74 million m ³)	Irrigation	CRWCD	--	
6	Hinman Park	44,000 (54 million m ³)	Power	PSC	8/4/64	20	Sandstone Res. (in Wyoming)	64,926 (80 million m ³)	Industrial	SW ⁶	--	
	<u>Juniper-Cross Mountain</u>						<u>Sheephorn**</u>					
7	Juniper Res.	1,080,000 (1,332 million m ³)	Power	CRWCD	6/8/54	21	Yampa River Res.	32,500 (40 million m ³)	Power	VTC ⁷	--	
8	Cross Mountain Res.	142,000 (175 million m ³)	Power	CRWCD	12/___/74	22	Morrison Creek Res.	12,500 (15 million m ³)	Power	VTC	--	
	<u>Oak Creek</u>						23	Three Forks (in Wyoming)	22,865 (28 million m ³)	Industrial	KC ⁸	6/20/72
9	Blacktail Res.	229,000 (282 million m ³)	Power	RMPC ^{4a}	1/16/66	24	Trout Creek	23,300 (29 million m ³)	Power	RMPC	4/28/67	
10	Childress Res.	24,200 (30 million m ³)	Power	RMPC	6/25/64	25	Twenty Mile	15,300 (19 million m ³)	Irrigation	J.E. Luttrell	7/22/61	
11	Lower Green Creek Res.	84,000 (31 million m ³)	Power	RMPC	1/16/66	26	Yamcolo	9,000 (11 million m ³)	Irrigation	CRWCD	2/26/63	
12	Lower Middle Creek Res.	25,200 (31 million m ³)	Power	RMPC	--		<u>Yellow Jacket</u>					
13	Upper Middle Creek Res.	102,200 (126 million m ³)	Power	RMPC	--	27	Thornburgh Res.	31,800 (39 million m ³)	Irrigation	YJCD ⁹	8/7/62	
14	Main Green Creek Res.	103,200 (127 million m ³)	Power	RMPC	1/16/77	28	Grouse Mountain	79,300 (98 million m ³)	Irrigation	CRWCD	6/4/63	
15	Service Creek Res.	22,000 (27 million m ³)	Power	RMPC	1/16/77	29	Hayden	8,600 (11 million m ³)	Power (?)	CUEA ¹⁰	6/24/64	
						30	Woodchuck	43,200 (53 million m ³)	Irrigation	CRWCD	--	

1. Colorado River Water Conservation District
 2. City of Cheyenne
 3. Utah Construction and Mining Company
 4. Public Service Company of Colorado
 - 4a. Rocky Mountain Power Company

5. Water and Power Resources Service
 6. State of Wyoming
 7. Vidler Tunnel Company and City of Golden
 8. Kemmerer Coal Company
 9. Yellow Jacket Conservancy District
 10. Colorado Ute Electric Association

*** Remaining items are those occurring outside of Wyoming.

*The State of Wyoming furnished certain data used in this table, and in the water resources development section of Chapter II. This data is not to be construed as reflecting the present or future position of Wyoming with regard to interpretation and application of the treaties, compacts, and laws which do or may affect the allocation of water among the States and among private claimants within each State. In particular, nothing in this report is intended to interpret the provisions of the Colorado River Compact (45 Stat. 1057), the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact (63 Stat. 31), the Water Treaty of 1944 with the United Mexican States (Treaty Series 994, 59 Stat. 1219), the decree entered by the Supreme Court of the United States in *Arizona v. California* (376 U.S. 340), the Boulder Canyon Project Adjustment Act (54 Stat. 774; 43 U.S.C. 618a), the Colorado River Storage Project Act (70 Stat. 105; 43 U.S.C. 620), or the Colorado River Basin Project Act (82 Stat. 885; 43 U.S.C. 1501), or to interpret or reach any conclusions regarding future application of the Federal reserved rights doctrine.



Map Key 7 and 8 - Juniper-Cross Mountain Project: Sponsored by the Colorado River Water Conservation District (CRWCD), the Juniper-Cross Mountain Project proposes two large dams on the Yampa River above the study segment. The primary purpose of the project would be hydropower production. Project generating capacity would be approximately 148 megawatts, with an annual output of about 350 million kilowatt hours of electrical energy; this power would be sold to the Colorado-Ute Electric Association. If built, the project would involve a construction period of about seven to eight years, and cost in excess of \$150 million.

Additional purposes stated in the water decrees for this project include recreation, fish, irrigation, and water for domestic, municipal, and industrial purposes. Flood control storage has also been mentioned by the District. However, available data on the project indicates that provisions for supplying flood control, irrigation, and domestic, municipal, and industrial water have not been planned into the project--at least at this stage. At the same time, the project sponsors have stated the project will serve one other function, that of providing greater flexibility in maximizing the opportunities for upstream users to use Yampa River water, while meeting downstream compact commitments.

Juniper Reservoir, with 1,082,000 acre-feet (1.33 billion m³) of storage at the normal maximum elevation of 6,125 feet, would be situated 25 miles (40 km) southwest of Craig, Colorado. The dam and reservoir would produce peaking power which, according to the CRWCD, would be "the optimum hydropower development in a predominantly thermal generating system."⁸ Juniper Dam would be

8. Application presented to the Federal Power Commission for preliminary permit, Juniper-Cross Mountain Hydrocomplex, filed by the CRWCD, August 4, 1975.

a 230-foot (70.4 m) high rockfill structure, with a spillway and bypass outlets on the right and an intake, penstock, and power plant on the left side of the canyon. According to information received verbally from EDAW, Inc., the environmental exhibits contractor to the CRWCD, the penstock intakes (main outlets) for Juniper Dam, as well as Cross Mountain Dam, are being planned for high level placement. This would produce relatively warm releases, which, according to an hypothesis advanced by CRWCD, might favor the continued existence of the endangered fish in the Yampa and Green Rivers.

The maximum plant discharge capacity from Juniper Dam would be about 7,000 cfs ($200 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$). The volume and speed of fluctuations in water level between Juniper Dam and the upper end of Cross Mountain Reservoir would create sufficient hazard that this 9-mile (14.5 km) stretch of the Yampa River would be closed to public use and probably fenced. The Juniper power plant would be operated basically as a peaking plant, with high discharges during the day and low discharges at night.

Juniper Reservoir would have a minimum elevation of 6,060 feet, and a maximum drawdown of 65 feet (20 m). When full, the reservoir would have approximately 15,000 surface acres (6,070 ha) of water and be one of the larger reservoirs in Colorado.

Cross Mountain Reservoir, with 207,000 acre-feet (255 million m^3) capacity at the normal maximum elevation of 5,888 feet, would be situated about 33 miles (53 km) downstream from Juniper Dam in the lower end of Cross Mountain Canyon. The reservoir would provide a useful storage of about 115,000 acre-feet (142 million m^3). The damsite is about 8 miles (13 km) above the upper terminus of the Yampa wild and scenic river study segment. The Cross Mountain facility would serve as a reregulating dam for the fluctuating releases from Juniper Reservoir; hydropower would also be

produced--about 54 percent of the total for the project. Cross Mountain Dam would be a 260-foot (85.3 m) high, concrete arch structure. It would have a central overflow spillway, with an intake, penstock, and underground power plant on the left side of the canyon and a low-level outlet through the dam. The maximum plant discharge capacity would be about 3,000 cfs ($90 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$). Cross Mountain Reservoir would have a normal maximum elevation of 5,888 feet, a minimum elevation of 5,870 feet, and when full would provide approximately 5,000 surface-acres (2,020 ha) of water surface.

According to information provided by the CRWCD, Juniper and Cross Mountain Reservoirs would provide opportunities for water skiing, slow and fast power boating, swimming, fishing, camping, picnicking, and hiking. Specific sites and facilities would be provided at each reservoir for boat launching and swimming. Tentatively, three campgrounds with 400 campsites, and five picnic sites would be built.

Information on estimates of recreation days of use the reservoir would provide have not been provided by the CRWCD; however, the district has estimated that Juniper Reservoir would be capable of supporting an annual sport fish harvest of approximately 242,000 pounds (110,000 kg), while Cross Mountain Reservoir would support a harvest of approximately 108,000 pounds (49,000 kg). Presumably, most reservoir recreation area users would be from northwestern Colorado, and to a lesser extent from northeastern Utah, south-central Wyoming, and other areas in Colorado.

To date, the CRWCD has not identified an agency willing to manage the project recreation areas.

Minimum releases from Cross Mountain Dam would be about 200 cfs ($5.7 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$) or an amount sufficient to provide a minimum flow of 500

cfs ($14.2 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$) in the Yampa River downstream from the confluence with the Little Snake, except that between the first of May and the end of July, a proposed minimum flow of 1,800 cfs ($51 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$) would be provided below the Little Snake. This means that peak flows of May and June (and occasionally early July), which are highly valued for boating and help maintain the present ecosystem in the Yampa study segment, would be reduced. According to the CRWCD, average monthly flows below the Little Snake would be reduced approximately 37 percent in May and 42 percent in June.⁹ By maintaining a flow of 1,800 cfs ($51 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$) through July, the project would provide greater than present average flows for the last three weeks of this month. However, this would provide little benefit to recreationists as a good boating experience through the monument (except possibly for kayakers) cannot be provided by an 1,800 cfs flow. Of course, the same would be true in May and June when the river would be at this level. In addition, "crest" flows, ranging near 20,000 cfs ($530 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$) in many years, would be totally or all but totally foregone.

According to CRWCD the project would increase average monthly flows (Jensen gage) by the following amounts during the late summer and early fall: July - 11 percent; August - 28 percent; September - 32 percent. However, after July, the 1,800 cfs ($51 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$) minimum would not be maintained, and flows would not normally be sufficient for satisfactory boating experiences.

The Juniper-Cross Mountain Project would also cause diurnal flow variations. The CRWCD has estimated that at a distance approximately 21 miles (34 km) downstream from the Little Snake "on

9. The National Park Service believes these reductions may have been underestimated.

a typical day during the first half of the May-July boating season," flows may fluctuate from 2,200 to 4,700 cfs (62.3 to 133 m³/s) within a 12-hour period (about 2.5 feet [0.7 m] vertical fluctuation). Later in the May-July season, flows will decrease and fluctuate from 1,800 to 2,950 cfs (51 to 83.5 m³/s) within a 12-hour period.

The project would also reduce peak flows and average monthly flows on the Green River below the Yampa confluence. The loss of average monthly flows has been estimated at 25 percent for May and 26 percent for June. The range in diurnal fluctuations will depend on whether high and low flows on the Yampa would reinforce or moderate diurnal fluctuations on the Green, which result from peaking power releases from Flaming Gorge Dam. According to the CRWCD, during the boating season diurnal fluctuations "under the worst assumption" (coincident lows and highs), may range from 3,050 cfs to 8,500 cfs (86.4 to 241 m³/s). Under more favorable conditions (canceling lows and highs), a diurnal variation of 5,600 to 5,950 cfs (159 to 168 m³/s) would result.

The Colorado River Water Conservation District filed for a preliminary permit with the Federal Power Commission (now the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or FERC) to investigate feasibility on August 4, 1975; the permit was issued on February 14, 1977. On February 1, 1980, the CRWCD filed an application, along with appropriate exhibits, with FERC for a construction permit. The application, which is under review by FERC, will eventually be made available to the National Park Service and other federal agencies by FERC. Portions of preliminary exhibits and other material obtained from the CRWCD and at CRWCD meetings made available before February 1, 1980, are the basis for the information presented here and in the environmental statement portion of this document.

Map Key 19 and 20 - Savery-Pothook Project: This is the only authorized Water and Power Resources Service project in the region. All planning is complete and a draft environmental impact statement was filed on September 29, 1976. In early 1977 the Executive Office of the President recommended that funding for this project cease and that it be deauthorized because of marginal economic benefits and substantial environmental effects. In September of 1977, the Commissioner of Reclamation recommended that the project be deauthorized. However, the project may yet be constructed.

Main construction features would be two reservoirs, Sandstone Reservoir on Savery Creek in Wyoming and Pothook Reservoir on Slater Creek in Colorado. Two conveyance systems, consisting of canals and laterals, would be constructed. The project objectives are to provide a supplemental irrigation supply for some lands inadequately irrigated and a full water supply for some unirrigated but arable lands. Fishery enhancement, recreation, and flood control benefits are also claimed for the project. If the project were to be developed, flows in the Yampa River would be reduced approximately 22,500 acre-feet (27.8 million m³) a year, or about 1.3 percent of the Yampa's flow in the study area. The degree of downstream effects on esthetic, wilderness and recreation values would probably be relatively small.

Map Key 21 and 22 - Sheephorn Project: The Sheephorn Project, which would be situated in the upper part of the Yampa Basin south and southwest of Steamboat Springs, is one of the largest water development proposals ever planned in the upper Colorado River Basin. It is sponsored by the Vidler Water Tunnel Company and the City of Golden, Colorado. The Sheephorn Project, a multiple-purpose development, would produce hydro-electric power, supply water for domestic, municipal, industrial, and irrigation uses, and provide a measure of flood control.

As a part of the project, transbasin diversion would be made from the Yampa River and headwater tributaries, including Fish, Walton, Harrison, Service, and Morrison Creeks. This project includes 7 reservoirs, 662,900 acre-feet (817.6 million m³) of storage, and about 90 miles (150 km) of tunnels and pipelines. It would produce 283 million kwh of electrical power annually. This project would affect downstream flows by decreasing total flows and regulating a portion of the Yampa River flows, both on a daily and seasonal basis.

Application for a Preliminary Permit was submitted to the Federal Power Commission on November 26, 1975. In comments on the permit application filed on June 8, 1976, the Department of the Interior questioned several possible impacts of the Sheephorn Project, including those on endangered endemic fish downriver in the Yampa, and potential adverse effects on the values for which the Yampa is being studied for possible inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The Department of the Interior concluded that "unless strong evidence is presented that these concerns have been eliminated it is quite probable that the Department will be opposed to the issuance of any license for construction . . . of this project."

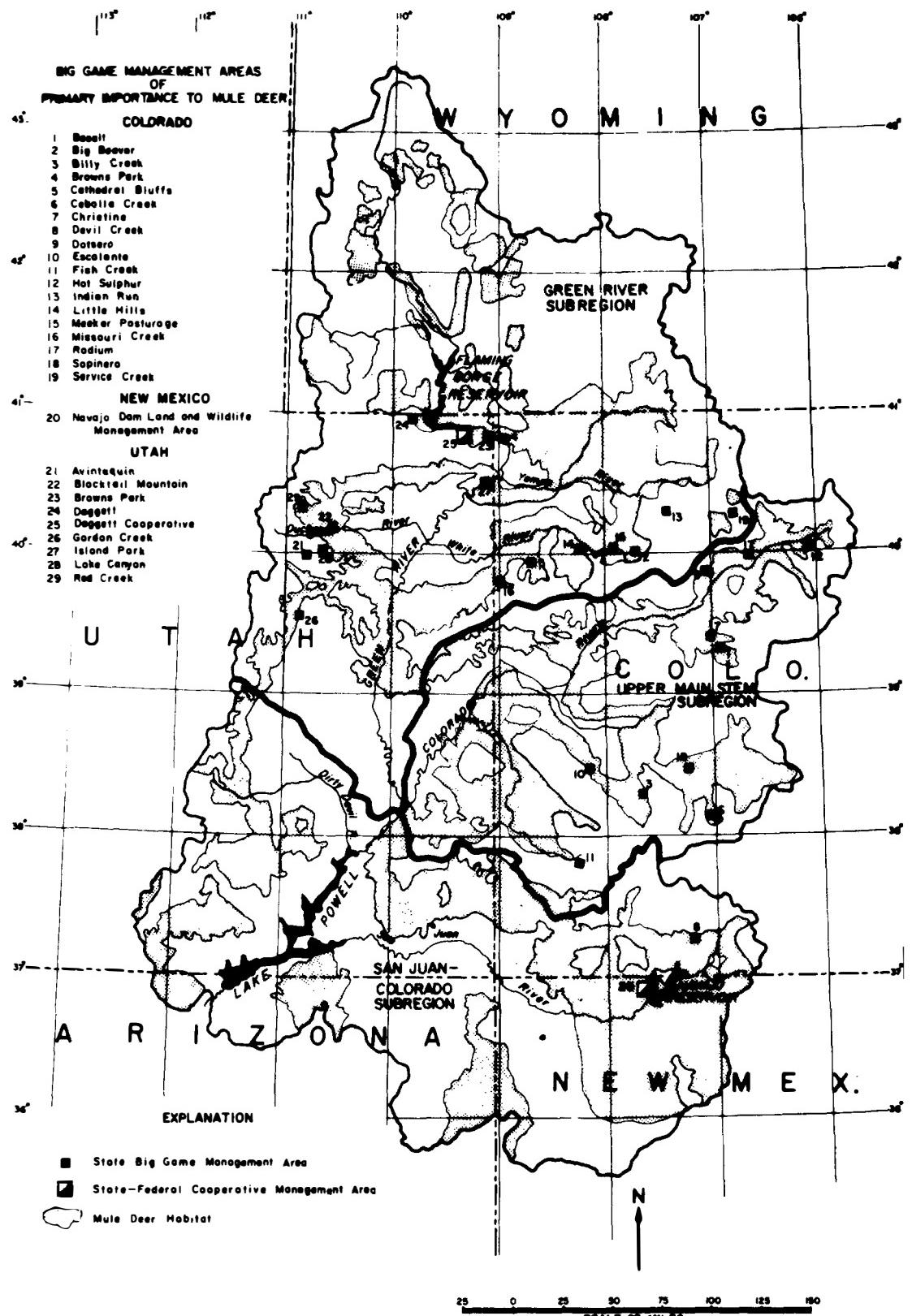
Map Key 26 - Yamcolo Project: The Yamcolo Reservoir Project is under construction and nearly complete on the Bear River, south of Steamboat Springs and 12 miles (19.3 km) southwest of the town of Yampa. Sponsored by the Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District, the project (also known as Stillwater Reservoir #4) includes a mile-long, (1.6 km), 9,000 acre-foot (11.1 million m³) reservoir that would store runoff waters to serve industrial, supplementary irrigation, and municipal uses. Most of the water would be used near Craig and Hayden and in the Egeria-Bear River Divide area upstream from the Yampa.

Map Key 9 to 15 - Oak Creek Project: This project proposes development of water from the Yampa River and several of its tributaries--Morrison Creek, Service Creek, Green Creek, Middle Creek, and Trout Creek--near the communities of Steamboat Springs and Oak Creek. The complex of reservoirs proposed would provide a total storage capacity of approximately 465,000 acre-feet (573.5 million m³).

FISH AND WILDLIFE

The diversity of vegetative cover and the variance in water temperature provides for a wide variety of fish and wildlife habitats throughout the region. Fishery management is primarily aimed at cold water species such as rainbow, brown, and cutthroat trout, while bass, walleye, channel catfish, and a large variety of nongame fish are present in warm water environments such as lower elevation rivers and reservoirs. Terrestrial species distributed within the region include various mammals, reptiles, waterfowl, and birds. Mule deer, elk, black bear, pronghorn, beaver, cottontail rabbit, mallard, coyote, white-footed deer mouse, and magpie are commonly found in the region. Wildlife restricted to specific ecosystems include bighorn sheep, wild turkey, sage grouse, marten, several warblers, pinon jays, and the bandtail pigeon. Some populations are limited because of habitat deficiencies, e.g., moose (rarely seen in Colorado), whitetail deer, bandtailed pigeon, two-lined skink, and willow flycatcher.

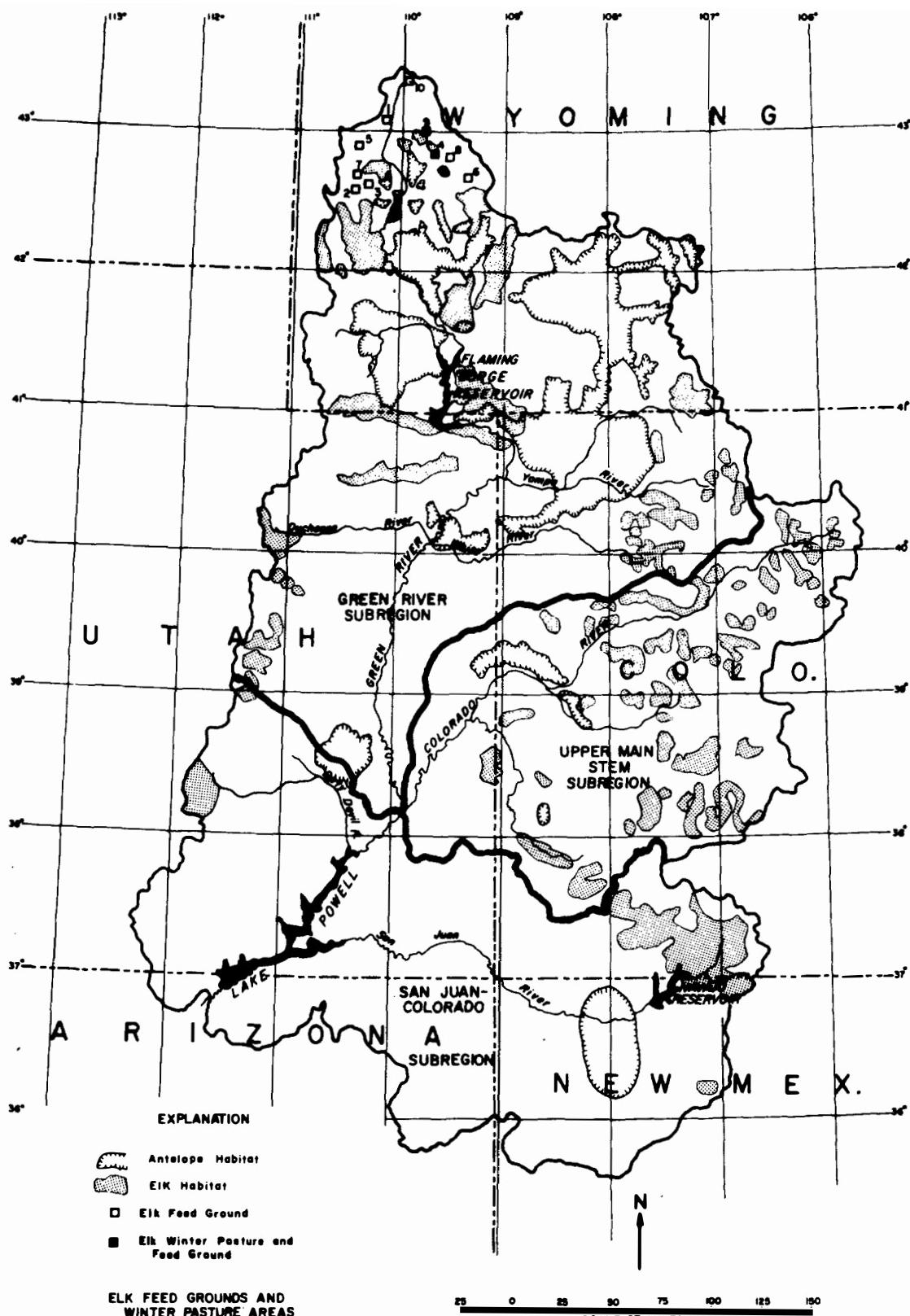
Threatened and endangered species on the federal, Colorado, and Utah lists exist in the study region. The following regional species are considered endangered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: American peregrine falcon, Colorado squawfish, humpback chub, bald eagle, and black-footed ferret (presence in the region not established). The bonytail chub and humpback sucker are



PRINCIPAL WILDLIFE RANGES UPPER COLORADO REGION

GREEN/YAMPA WILD AND SCENIC-RIVER STUDY

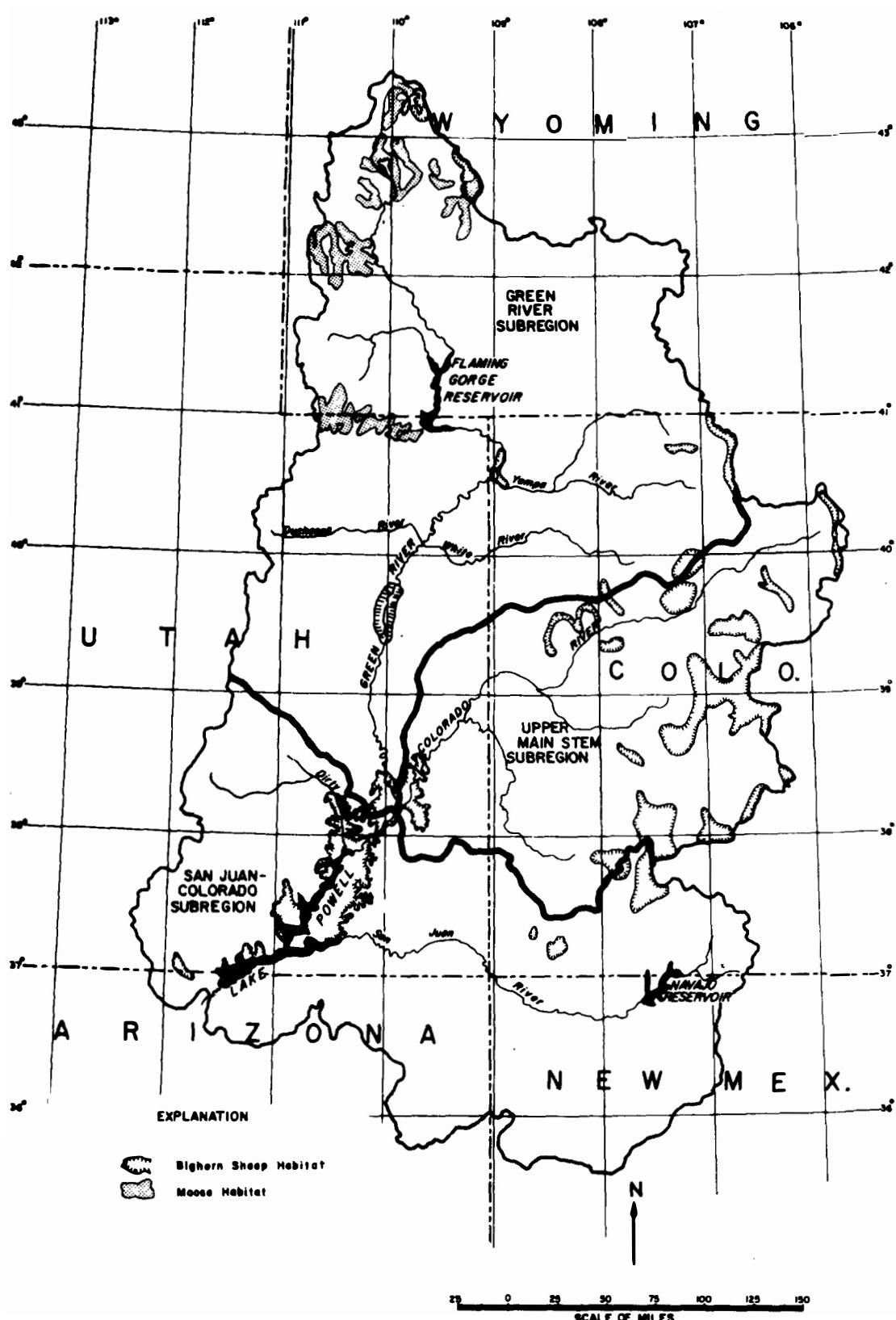
KEY HABITAT FOR MULE DEER
MAP 1 of 4



PRINCIPAL WILDLIFE RANGES UPPER COLORADO REGION

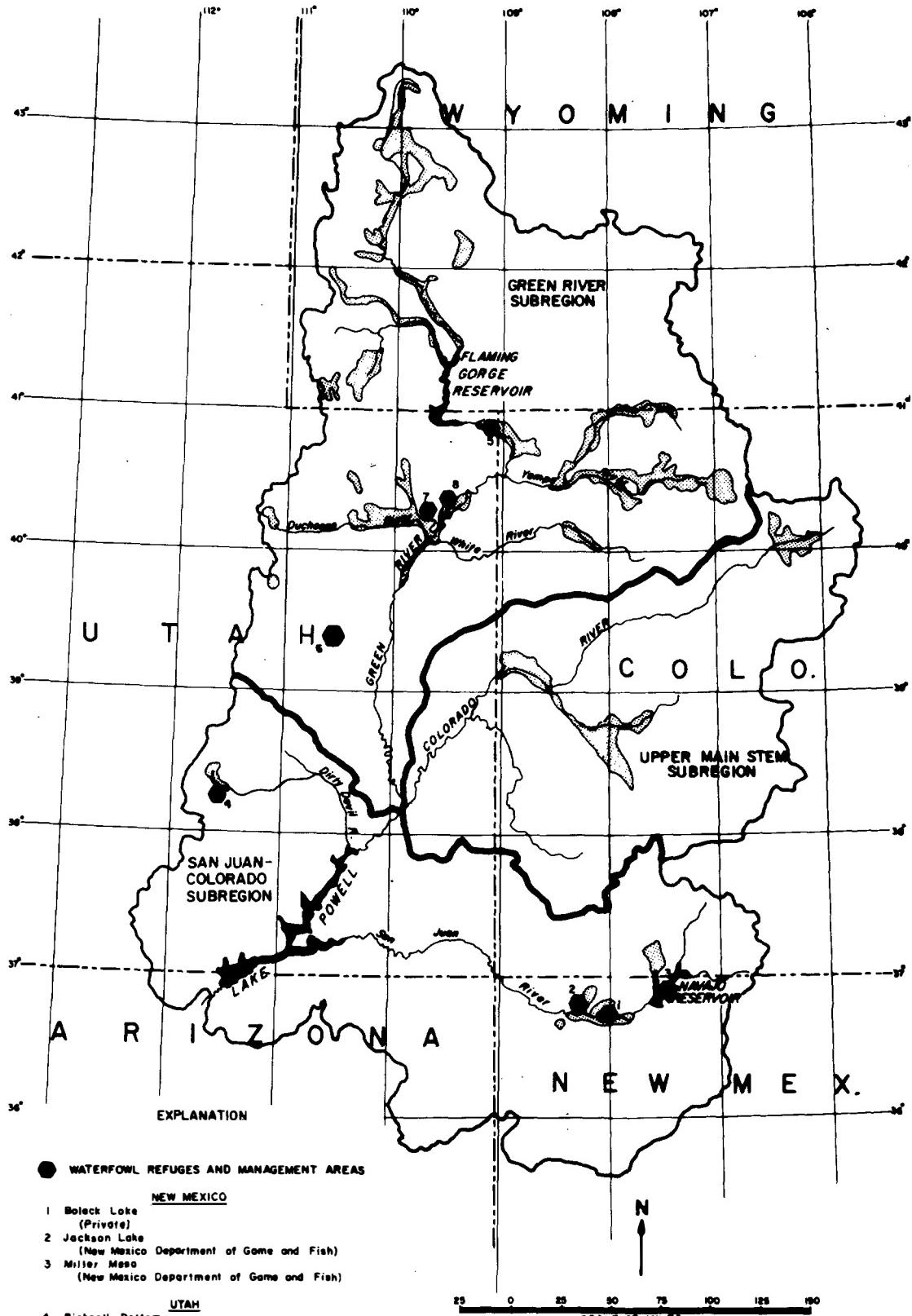
GREEN/YAMPA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY

KEY HABITAT FOR ANTELOPE AND ELK WSRS | 20,050
MAP 2 of 4 DSC | MAR 79



PRINCIPAL WILDLIFE RANGES UPPER COLORADO REGION GREEN/YAMPA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY

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PRINCIPAL WILDLIFE RANGES UPPER COLORADO REGION

GREEN/YAMPA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY

Waterfowl Habitat

KEY HABITAT FOR WATERFOWL
MAP 4 of 4

WSRS | 20,050
DSC | MAR 79

proposed respectively as endangered and threatened species. The state of Colorado considers the greater sandhill crane to be endangered and the white pelican and the humpback sucker to be threatened. The state of Utah considers the humpback sucker and bonytail chub to be "declining."¹⁰ In addition, the whooping crane, on the federal endangered species list, could become a regular migrant in the region because of efforts to start a new nesting flock in southeastern Idaho.

POPULATION AND ECONOMY

The 9,930-square-mile (25,720 km²) region is lightly populated and includes only two sizeable towns--Craig, Colorado, with a population of about 9,000 and Vernal, Utah, with a population of approximately 7,000. In 1975 approximately 27,000 people lived in the three-county region, and average density was only 2.7 people per square mile, compared with 24 per square mile in Colorado, 15 per square mile in Utah, and 59 per square mile in the United States. Projections for population growth in Moffat, Uintah, and Daggett Counties are shown in table II-5.

As of 1975, regional employment was fairly evenly distributed among five sectors: agriculture, mining, wholesale and retail trade, services, and government employment. Table II-6 gives a distribution breakdown. Unemployment was lowest in Uintah County and highest in Daggett County. Per capita income in Utah was

10. Status of Selected Animal Species in Utah. Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (April, 1979). "Declining" - Any species of animal which, although still occurring in numbers adequate for survival, has been greatly depleted and continues to decline. A management program, including protection or habitat manipulation, is needed to stop or reverse decline.

Table 11-5

Population Projections, Green-Yampa Rivers Study Region

	<u>1975</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1990</u>
Moffat County ¹	9,001	16,142	22,019	Not available
Uintah County ²	17,500	21,375	23,180	21,450
Daggett County ²	<u>800</u>	<u>1,125</u>	<u>1,220</u>	<u>1,150</u>
TOTALS	27,301	38,642	46,419	Not available

1. From Moffat County Planner. 1975 figure from Final Environmental Statement, Northwestern Colorado Coal (Bureau of Land Management, June 1976) Regional Analysis, page II-121.

2. The Utah Process: Alternative Futures (5), 1975-1990, Vol. 1, 1975.

Table II-6

Employment
Daggett and Uintah Counties, Utah, and Moffat County, Colorado¹

	Moffat County 1975		Uintah County 1975		Daggett County 1975	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Agriculture	462	14	740	11	40	13
Mining	236	7	1,010	15	5	2
Construction	282	8	285	4	7	2
Manufacture	111	3	287	4	-	-
Transportation, Public Utilities	230	7	500	8	10	3
Wholesale and Retail Trade	659	19	1,175	18	35	12
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	93	3	115	2	2	1
Other Private Services	348	10	1,070	16	10	3
Public Administration	698 ³	21	995	15	165	54
Unemployed	270 ³	8	426	7	30	10
TOTALS	3,389	100	6,603	100	304	100

-
1. Figures do not include self-employed, unpaid family labor, and domestics.
 2. Regional Economic Information System, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, August 1978.
 3. Colorado Division of Employment and Training, Research and Analysis, communication of March 5, 1979.

\$3,699 in Daggett County and \$4,400 in Uintah County (residence adjusted); in Moffat County it was \$5,228.

LAND OWNERSHIP AND USE

The federal government is the principal landowner in the region, with 60 percent of the acreage divided among six different agencies, plus a portion of the Hill Creek Extension of the Uinta and Ouray Indian Reservation. Daggett County has the highest portion of federal lands (84.4 percent), followed by Uintah County (61.2 percent) and Moffat County (48.4 percent). Conversely, Moffat County has the highest amount of private land (35.8 percent), most of this patented in the late 1800s and early 1900s under the agricultural homestead laws. State lands account for only 7.1 percent of the acreage. Table II-7 gives a more detailed breakdown of land ownership.

Agricultural production is the dominant land use, with rangeland covering the greatest area. Irrigated cropland occupies only about 0.6 percent of the land area in Moffat County and 3 percent in Uintah and Daggett counties. Primary uses are for pasture and winter feed production for livestock. In the Yampa River Basin, irrigated cropland has increased slightly in recent years. Dry cropland covers only 1 percent of the region (mostly in Colorado); wheat is the most important crop, followed by non-irrigated hay, barley, and oats.

TRANSPORTATION

Narrow, two-lane paved highways designed for light traffic are the main transportation arteries. U.S. Highway 40, a widened, two-lane highway running east-west between Denver and Salt Lake

Table II-7
Land Ownership
Moffat County, Colorado, and Daggett and Uintah Counties, Utah

	Moffat County			Uintah County			Daggett County			Total		
	Acres	Hectares	Percent	Acres	Hectares	Percent	Acres	Hectares	Percent	Acres	Hectares	Percent
FEDERAL												
Forest Service	41,763	16,908	1.4	270,430	109,486	9.4	258,938	104,833	59.1	571,131	231,227	9.0
Bureau of Land Management	1,516,363	613,912	50.0	1,362,572	551,649	47.6	98,983	40,074	22.6	2,977,918	1,205,635	47.0
National Park Service	165,318	66,930	5.4	42,094	17,042	1.5	--	--	--	207,412	83,972	3.3
Water and Power Res. Service	--	--	--	8,819	3,570	0.3	11,793	4,775	2.7	20,612	8,345	0.3
Department of Defense	--	--	--	58,931	23,859	2.1	--	--	--	58,931	23,859	0.9
Fish and Wildlife Service	13,544	5,483	0.4	10,966	4,440	0.4	--	--	--	24,510	9,923	0.4
TOTAL FEDERAL	1,736,988	703,233	57.2	1,753,812	710,046	61.2	369,714	149,682	84.4	3,860,514	1,562,961	60.9
STATE	210,435	85,196	6.9	232,221	94,017	8.1	34,359	13,911	7.8	477,015	193,124	7.5
PRIVATE												
Indian	--	--	--	426,751	172,734	14.9	--	--	--	426,751	172,734	6.7
Other	1,088,097	440,525	35.8	451,496	182,792	15.8	34,192	13,843	7.8	1,573,785	637,160	24.8
TOTAL PRIVATE	1,088,097	440,525	35.8	877,247	355,566	30.7	34,192	13,843	7.8	2,000,536	809,894	31.6
TOTAL	3,035,520	1,228,954	100	2,864,280	1,515,155	100	438,265	177,436	100	6,338,065	2,565,979	100

City, is the only major route. The major north-south route is Colorado 13-789, which traverses the study area from Baggs, Wyoming, to Rifle, Colorado, and I-70.

Access to the study area is available from US 40, Colorado 318, and Utah 44. (See Energy Resources and Developments map.)

No rail service is available to the two Utah counties; the Denver and Rio Grande Western tracks go only as far west as Craig and only freight trains (mostly coal) now travel them. A railroad to transport coal from Lay, Colorado north to Baggs, Wyoming, is planned. Continental Trailways buses travel east-west on U.S. Highway 40, and bus service is also available to the south. Frontier Airlines has scheduled flights into both Vernal, Utah, and Hayden, Colorado. Dutch John and Manila in Daggett County also have municipal airports; the Dutch John airport is administered by the Forest Service. Craig has a city-county airport with commuter service.

RECREATION

Recreational resources are numerous and diverse, and tourism is a substantial local industry. Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area in northeastern Utah received 1,250,000 visits in 1978, a substantial portion of tourist visits to the whole state of Utah.

Tourism does not rank as high in Moffat County; however, Dinosaur National Monument, situated in Moffat and Uintah Counties, has become a major tourist attraction, with over 401,000 visitors in 1976. The majority came from outside of the local area.

In all three counties, ample recreational opportunities exist because of the richness and variety of the natural landscape, the diversity

of fish and wildlife, and the presence of several small manmade reservoirs and lakes. As of 1976, fishing, boating, and hunting were listed as the main recreational pursuits in northeastern Utah. The most popular recreation season is the summer, and the spring is the second most popular. In the fall of 1976, the three-county study area recorded 9,500 deer hunters, 3,450 elk hunters and 1,500 antelope hunters.

In Moffat County, there is camping at 2 Forest Service sites, a private area near Massadona, and 5 BLM primitive camping areas in the northwestern part of the county. The Bureau of Land Management, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service have camping areas on the Green River in the Browns Park segment, and the Park Service has a number of either river- or vehicle-access campgrounds on the Green and Yampa in Dinosaur National Monument. Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area has 28 campground and picnic sites, 4 boat campsites, 3 marinas, 11 boat ramps, 2 visitor centers, and several miles of trails. Ashley National Forest has a number of popular streams, lakes, scenic roads and trails, and developed recreation sites.

Aside from the study segments, major river-running recreation opportunities are limited to the upstream portions of the Yampa River (above Dinosaur National Monument) and the downstream reach of the Green River (below the monument). With the exception of the formidable 3.5-mile (5.6-km) Cross Mountain Canyon on the Yampa River, outside of the study area, the portions of these two rivers that lie outside the monument but within the region are generally flat and best suited for canoeing. Notable scenic features include Cross Mountain Canyon (whose extremely difficult rapids are thought by those with the expertise to run them to be among the finest in Colorado), the Little Yampa Canyon, and Juniper Canyon on the Yampa River; and the upper reach of Desolation Canyon on the Green River in southwestern

Uintah County. In total, there are over 300 miles (480 km) of streams and rivers in the region which are suitable for some form of rafting, canoeing, and kayaking.

The maximum flow rate on the Green River below the Flaming Gorge Dam is approximately 4,600 cfs ($130 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$), which is sufficient for all types and sizes of river-running craft. However, flow rates under 1,600 cfs ($45 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$) will impede rafts more than 18 feet (5.5 m) in length; smaller rafts can be impeded in places. Below the Yampa confluence, a minimum flow rate of 1,200 cfs ($34 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$) is necessary for passage in rafts, kayaks, or canoes.

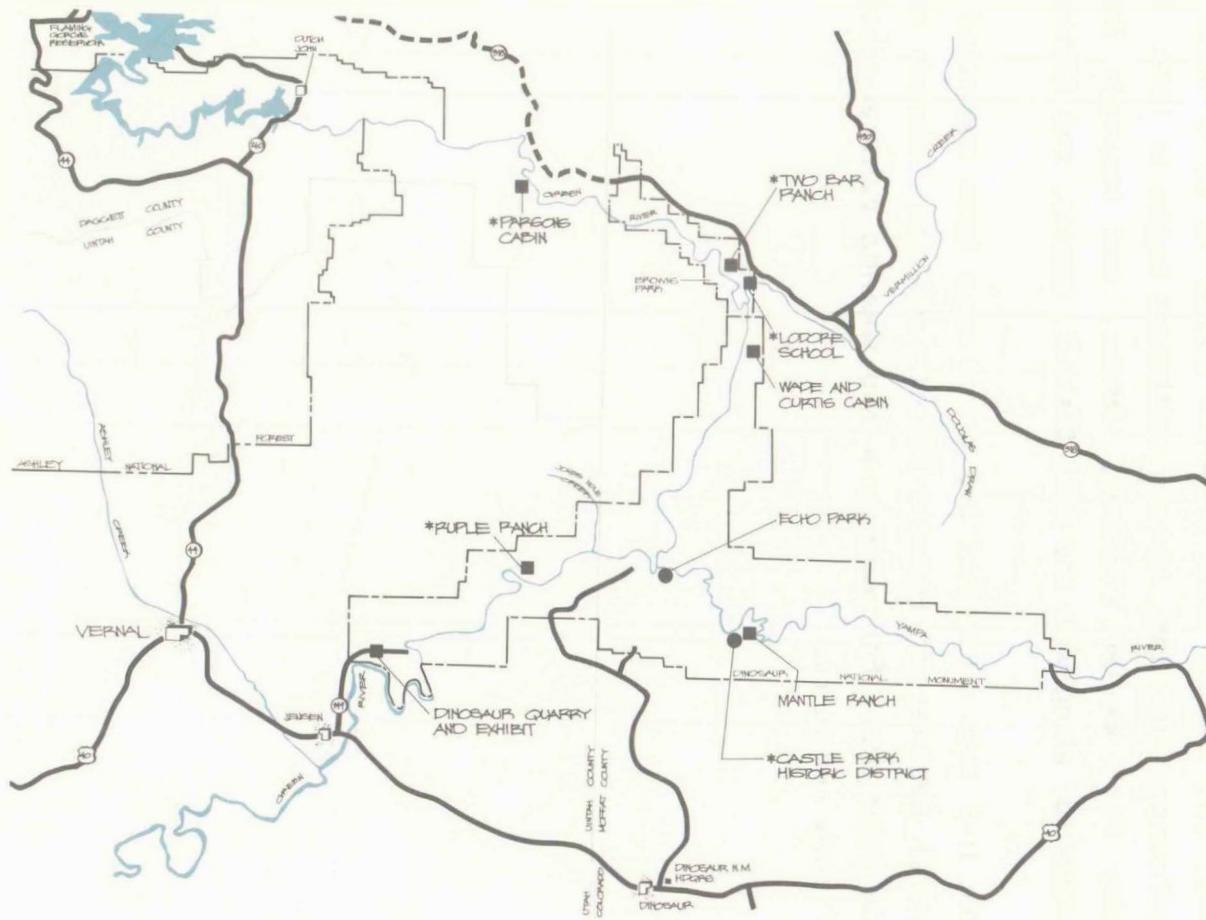
ARCHEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Archeological resources are believed to include artifacts covering a 13,000-year cultural sequence starting with evidence of the Clovis culture, one of the earliest paleo-Indian cultures known to exist on the continent. Succeeding the Clovis in the region were the Folsom, Plano, Desert Archaic and Fremont cultures; the most recent is predominantly Ute. Only scattered Clovis and Folsom points have been found and reported by local collectors. Most of the significant finds of the Plano and succeeding Desert Archaic cultures have been made in Dinosaur National Monument. Fremont sites are also known in the monument and in a number of canyons and washes in both Uintah and Daggett Counties.

The Dinosaur Quarry, in the monument, is built over a sandstone ledge in the Morrison Formation which preserves an extraordinary deposit of mesozoic fossils. The scientific importance of this deposit was one of the reasons for the designation of Dinosaur National Monument.

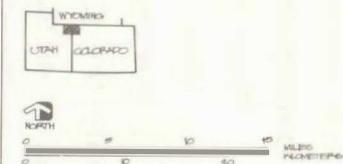
European man's first well-documented journey into the region was in 1776 when the Dominguez-Escalante expedition traversed south of the Yampa River. Their route, which crosses the Green River near the town of Jensen, Utah, is being studied for potential inclusion in the National Trails System, as a historic trail. Several portions of the region, notably the Browns Park Area, were important centers for the fur trade, from 1825 through 1842. Beginning in the 1860s, settlers arrived in the region; many relics of those early years remain in various states of preservation. Among these are early homesteads, townsites, cow camps, old graves, wagon roads, canals, and cabins, some of which appear to be of state or local significance. In Utah, Mormon settlement began in 1847. In 1878, Ashley Fork Center (Vernal), Jensen, and Mountain Dell were established, along with the Neill District, Naples, and Glines.

Table II-8 lists sites that are on or have been nominated for the National Register of Historic Places, and the Colorado and Utah State registers. Following is a map showing cultural resources in the study corridors.



LEGEND

- PREHISTORIC FEATURE
- HISTORIC FEATURE
- * NOMINATED FOR INCLUSION ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES



CULTURAL RESOURCES GREEN/YAMPA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WSRS | 20.064
DSC | MAR 79



The Dominguez-Escalante Expedition crossed the Green River near the southern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument in 1776. Shown are members of the Dominguez-Escalante Bicentennial Expedition, on September 15, 1976. Janice Daigh

Table !!-8

Historic Sites, Green-Yampa Study Region

<u>Site or Area Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Register</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Interest</u>
Old Lodore School	Moffat	National	added, 2/24/75	
David Moffat private car	Moffat	National	added, 6/20/75	
White-Indian Contact Site	Moffat	National	added, 3/8/77	
Castle Park Historic District	Moffat	National	nominated	1919 log cabin school building; area includes about 30 archeologic sites
Pool Creek Ranch Historic District	Moffat	National	nominated	Pat Lynch's cave and 1910 ranch (cabin)
Zenobia Basin	Moffat	National	nominated	two 1930s log cabins
Alhandra Stage Stop and Ferry	Uintah	National	nominated	ruins of buildings, ferry abutment
Cub Creek Archeological District	Uintah	National	nominated	varied archaeological sites, mostly Fremont Culture
Fort Duchesne	Uintah	National	nominated, 1/1/73	
Jones Creek-Ely Creek	Uintah	National	Nominated	archeologic sites from 500 B.C. to 1850, including deluge shelter
Whiterocks Village Site	Uintah	National	added, 1/1/76	archeologic site, Fremont Culture
Ashley Post Office	Uintah	Utah	nominated, 1/10/73	1879 structure (log)
Parcel Post Bank	Uintah	Utah	added	1916 structure (stone)
Caldwell Village	Uintah	Utah	added, 6/14/72	archeologic site, Fremont Culture
Dry Fork Valley Petroglyphs	Uintah	Utah	added	archeologic site, Fremont Culture
McKee Springs Petroglyphs	Uintah	National	nominated	archeologic site, Fremont Culture
Peltier Ranch Petroglyphs	Uintah	Utah	added	archeologic site, provenance unknown
Randlett Espicopal Church	Uintah	Utah	added, 8/4/71	1896 structure (white frame)
Uintah Tabernacle	Uintah	Utah	added, 5/30/73	1900-1907 structure (stone)
Ruple Ranch District	Uintah	National	nominated	1883 ranch settlement, uncompleted water tunnel, petroglyph

<u>Site or Area Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Register</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Interest</u>
McConkie Ranch Petroglyphs, Vernal vicinity	Uintah	National	added, 9/25/75	
Little Brush Creek Petroglyphs	Uintah	National	added, 3/15/76	
White River Archaeological District	Uintah	National	nominated, 11/3/76	
Cockleburr Wash Petroglyphs	Uintah	National	nominated	
Bank of Vernal	Uintah	Utah	nominated, 1/10/73	
Manila Petroglyphs	Daggett	National	added, 10/6/75	
Doc Parson's Cabin Complex	Daggett	National	added, 11/21/76	
Swett Ranch	Daggett	National	nominated, 10/31/74	
Uncle Jack Robinson's Cabin	Daggett	Utah	added, 6/30/70	
Dowd's Grave, Dugout and Trail	Daggett	Utah	added, 4/7/71	

CHAPTER III

DESCRIPTION OF THE YAMPA AND GREEN RIVER CORRIDORS

The following description of the Yampa and Green River study area includes the immediate river corridor, which averages about one-fourth mile (0.4 km) in width on each side of the river, and a broader visual corridor approximately one-half to 5 miles (0.8 km to 8 km) wide.

The Yampa River is the largest tributary to the Green. It flows about 200 miles (320 km) from its headwaters in the Park and Gore Ranges and Flattops Mountains of central and northern Colorado to its confluence with the Green River in Dinosaur National Monument. The Green, largest tributary of the Colorado, rises in a high mountain valley between Mammoth and Stroud glaciers in the Wind River Range of west-central Wyoming. From there, it flows generally in a south-southwesterly direction for 730 miles (1,175 km) and joins the Colorado River in Canyonlands National Park, Utah.

About 250 miles (400 km) from its source, the Green River flows into Flaming Gorge Reservoir. Where it emerges from Flaming Gorge Dam, the Green is midway through Red Canyon within Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area and flowing east. This is where the study begins.

SEGMENT A - RED CANYON

Physiography and Geology

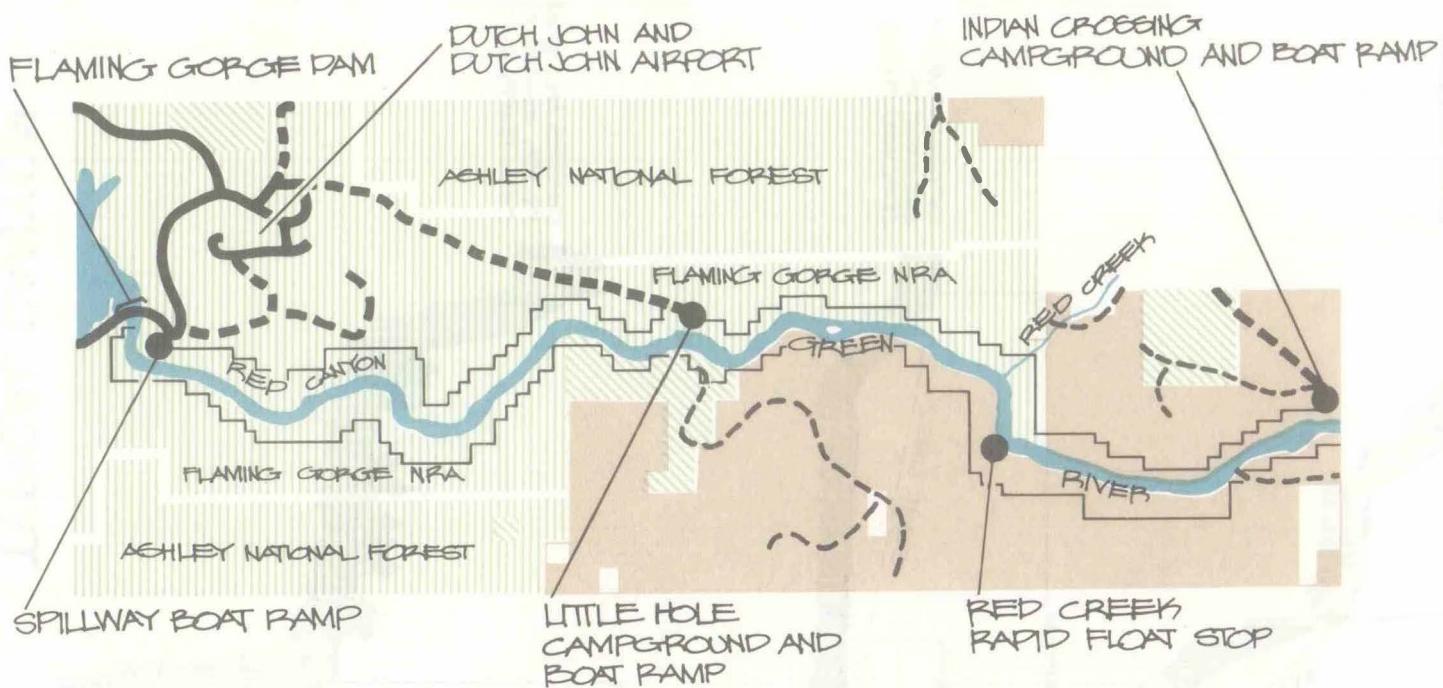
This 15-mile (24.6 km) section of the river begins about 600 yards (550 m) below Flaming Gorge Dam in the Ashley National Forest and ends at the Bureau of Land Management's Indian Crossing boat ramp.

Red Canyon displays multiple personalities and striking contrasts. Sometimes the Green River flows through a deep, narrow canyon and at other times, between low, rolling hills. At its lower end, it flows across a broad, flat valley. Rocks of the canyon are dark and ancient; those of the gentler terrain are comparatively light and young.

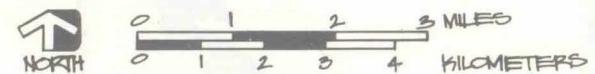
In terms of physiography, Red Canyon divides into two reaches: the first from Spillway boat ramp below Flaming Gorge Dam (mile 289.6)¹ to Little Hole (mile 282.7); the second from Little Hole to the end of the canyon (mile 276.6). Both are deep, rough, and rocky with irregular walls rising as much as 1,800 feet (550 m) from river to rim. Slope gradient is from 45 to 80 percent, with many sheer cliffs. There are occasional steep breaks along the river and small side drainages.

Ancient Precambrian rocks dominate Red Canyon. Deep red quartzites, sandstones, and conglomerates date back 600 million to 1.5 billion years and are among the oldest rocks on the 730-mile (1,175 km) Green River. All belong to the Uinta Mountain Group and were originally deposited as sediments, mostly on a flood plain.

1. All river mile figures in this report are from Philip T. Hayes and George C. Simmons, River Runners' Guide to Dinosaur National Monument and Vicinity, Powell Society Ltd., Denver, Colorado, 1973.



- LEGEND**
- RECREATION SITE
 - DEVELOPED ROAD
 - - - SEASONAL ROAD
 - - - PRIMITIVE ROAD (4-WHEEL DRIVE)
 - U.S. FOREST SERVICE LAND
 - ▨ STATE LAND - UTAH
 - PRIVATE LAND
 - PUBLIC LAND (BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT)
 - ~~~~ SUGGESTED WILD AND SCENIC RIVER BOUNDARY LOCATION

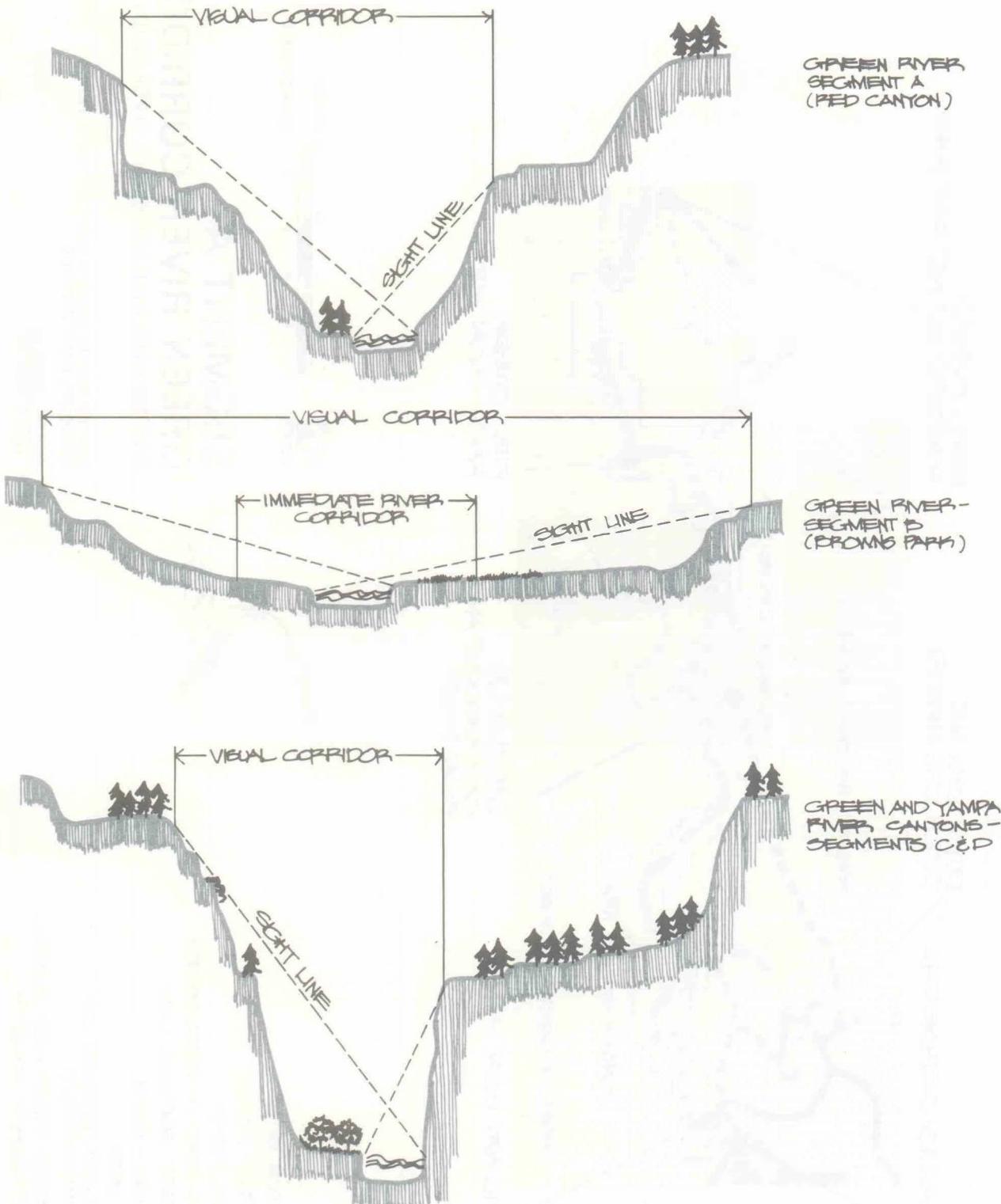


SEGMENT A GREEN RIVER CORRIDOR

GREEN/YAMPA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

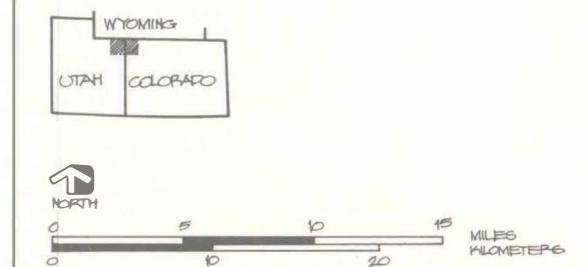
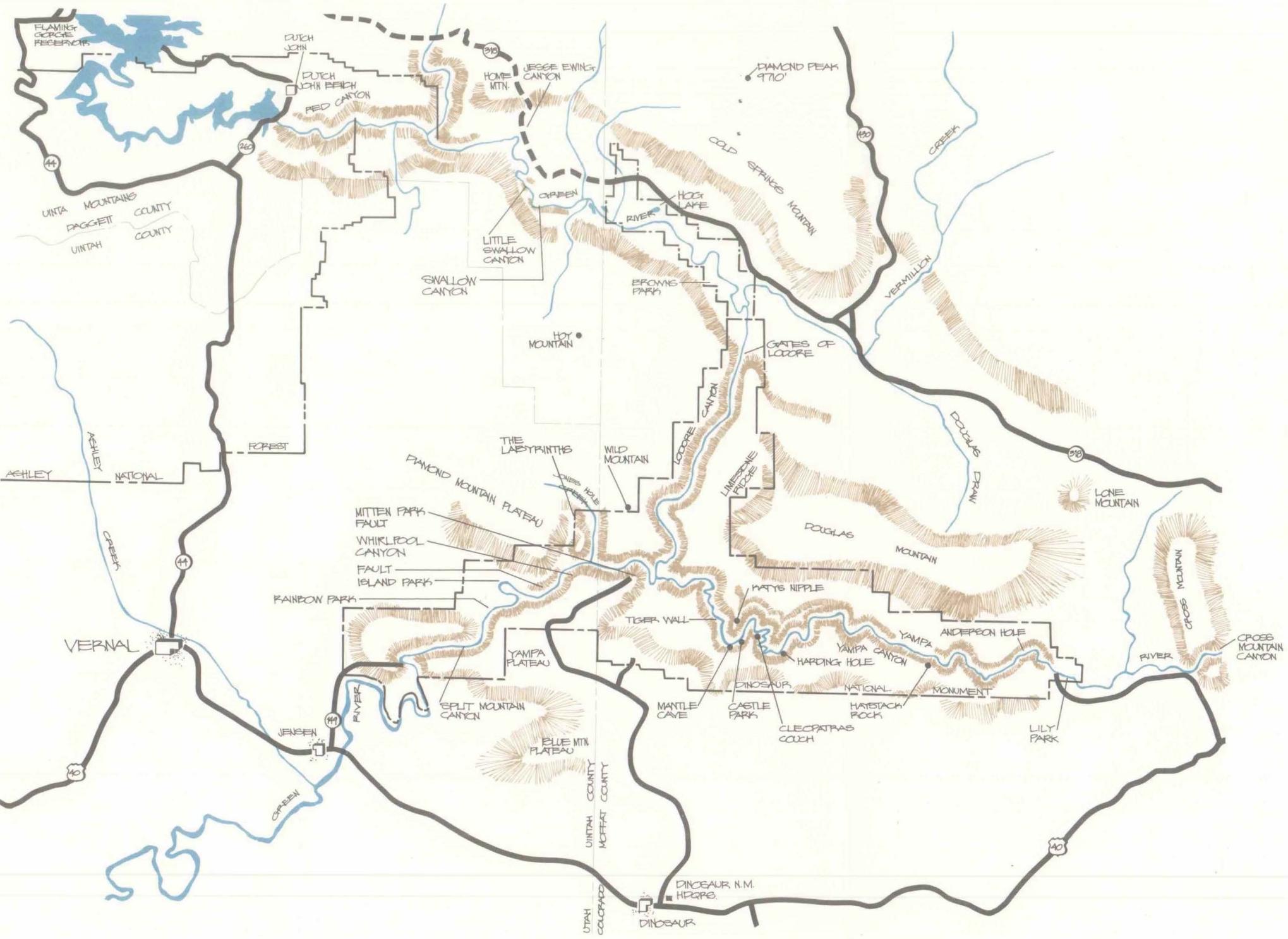
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**TYPICAL CANYON
AND VALLEY
CROSS SECTIONS**
GREEN/YAMPA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY

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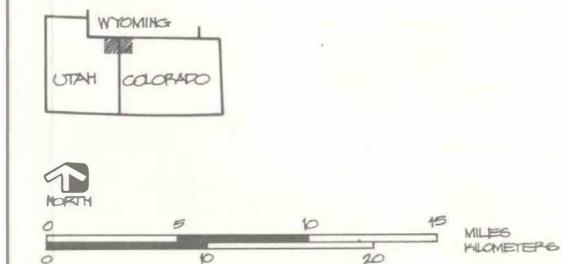
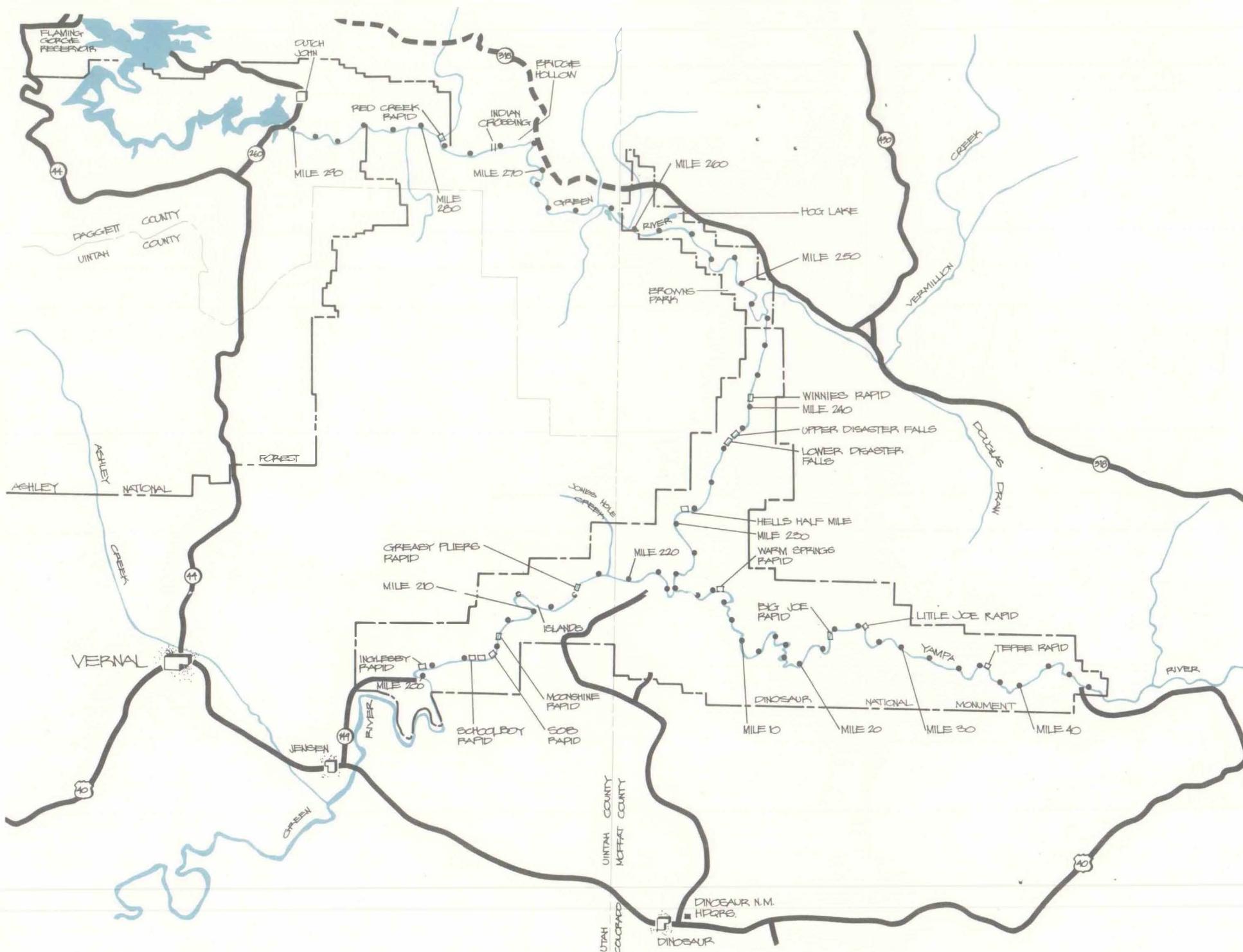


PHYSIOGRAPHY
MAP 1 OF 2
GREEN/YAMPA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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LEGEND

- AREA BETWEEN DOTS EQUALS TWO RIVER MILES



PHYSIOGRAPHY MAP 2 OF 2

GREEN/YAMPA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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Since then, forces have caused extensive fracturing and jointing, contributing to the canyon's present rough, stairstep appearance.

At Little Hole and Browns Park, the younger dull gray-to-white Browns Park Formation predominates. Deposited in Miocene time over the Uinta Mountain Group, this formation is about 15 million years old.

The local relief near Red Canyon is about 4,000 feet (1,200 m). Elevation below Flaming Gorge Dam is 5,606 feet (1,708.7 m), while the high points of this easterly spur of the Uinta Range rise above 9,700 feet (2,060 m) west and east of Red Canyon.

Minerals

Studies by the Geological Survey and Bureau of Mines indicate that Red Canyon has no known commercially valuable minerals, although a number of placer gold mining claims existed in the area in 1906 and in the 1930s. Copper, tuff, and barite occurrences are also known; these may have future development potential. When the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area was established in 1968, a total of 6 miles (9.7 km) of the corridor downriver from the dam and another 6.4 miles (10.3 km) of the north bank were withdrawn from mineral location. Leasable and common-variety minerals (such as sand and gravel) may be removed from the national recreation area only by special permits from the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture. None has been granted within the corridor. The area is also under a Reclamation and Powersite Withdrawal which precludes mineral entry.

Soils

The slopes of Red Canyon are mainly rock outcrop and talus and have shallow to moderately deep loams of up to about 30 inches, underlain by quartzite bedrock. Soil reaction is moderately acid to neutral. The content of rock fragments ranges from 25 to 60 percent and inherent fertility is low; erosion hazard is moderate to high.

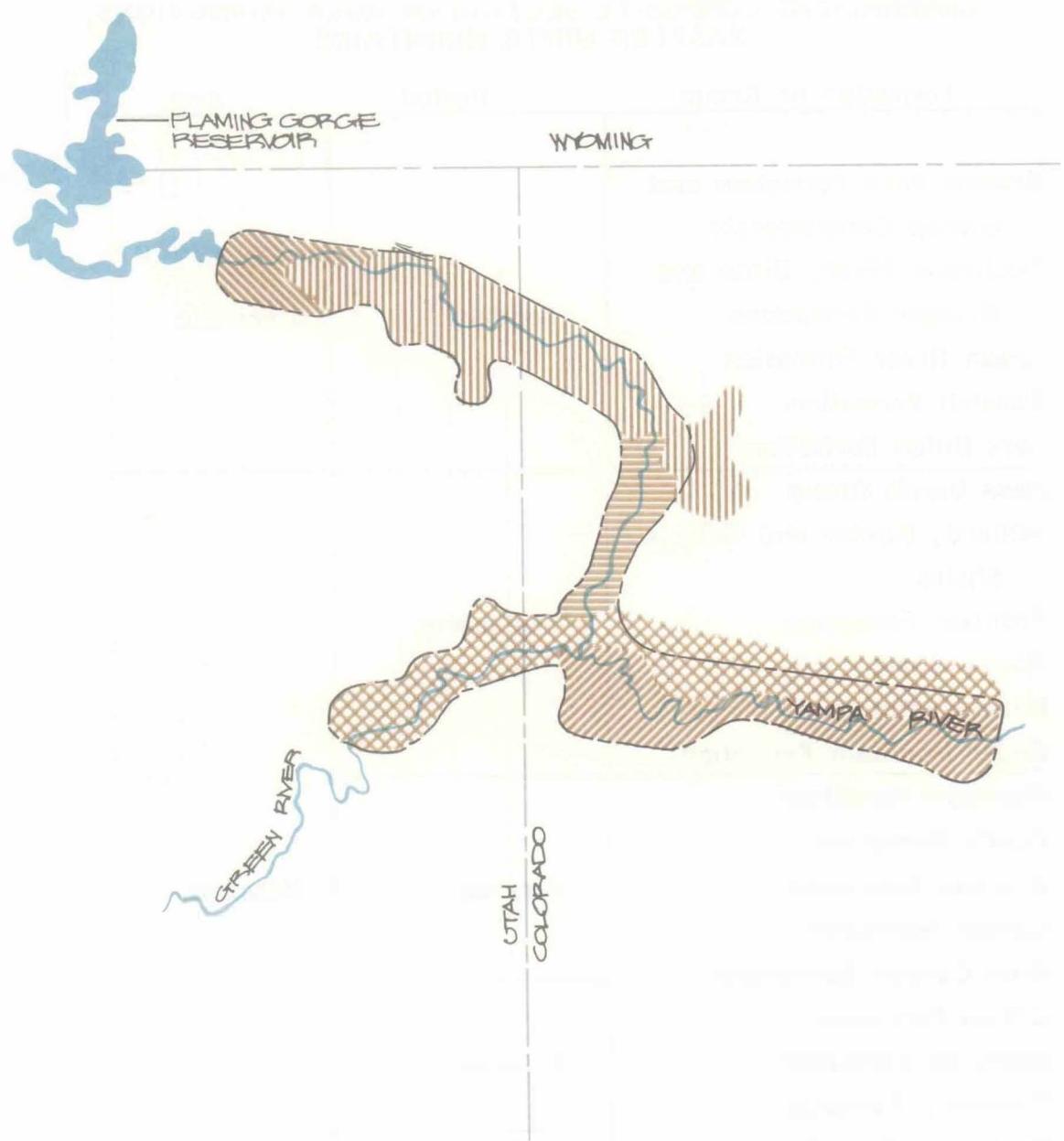
Valley soils at Little Hole and in upper Browns Park are mostly loams which have developed in alluvial materials. The depth of the soil to bedrock is over 40 inches (100 cm); beneath the surface are stratified, cobbly layers that are sometimes weakly cemented with calcium. Soil reaction is mild to moderately alkaline. The content of rock fragments ranges from 5 to 20 percent in the surface layers, and from 10 to 60 percent below. Fertility is moderate and the erosion hazard is low, except on the steep breaks where it is moderate to high. River banks are mainly sandy with small areas of sandy loam.

Recreation use and development areas are situated mostly on the valley soils. This soil type represents about 40 percent of the corridor area in Segment A. For additional information, see the soils map in this chapter.

On the soils map, these valley soils are shown by the Typic Calciorthids--Ustollic Haplargids--Typic Torriorthents Association.

Vegetation

A study in diversity and mixed associations, the vegetation can be divided into three basic communities. The river bank terrace community supports narrowleaf cottonwood, river birch, four



- LITHIC ARGIBOROUS - ROCK OUTCROP - TYPIC ARGIBOROUS
- TYPE CALCIORTHIDS - USTOLIC HAPLARGIDS - TYPIC TORRORTHEENTS
- LITHIC USTIC TORRORTHEENTS - USTIC TORRORTHEENTS
- LITHIC HARLOBOROUS - ROCK LAND - ARIDIC ARGIBOROUS
- USTOLIC HAPLARGIDS



0 4 8 12 MILES

0 4 8 12 KILOMETERS

SOILS

GREEN/YAMPA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

WSRS | 20,054
DSC MAR 79

**GENERALIZED COMPOSITE SECTION OF ROCK FORMATIONS,
EASTERN UNTA MOUNTAINS**

Formation or Group	Period	Era
Browns Park Formation and Bishop Conglomerate		
Duchesne River, Uinta and Bridger Formations	Tertiary	Cenozoic
Green River Formation		
Wasatch Formation		
Fort Union Formation		
Mesa Verde Group		
Hilliard, Baxter and Mancos Shales		
Frontier Formation	Cretaceous	
Mowry Shale		
Dakota Sandstone		
Cedar Mountain Formation		
Morrison Formation		
Curtis Formation		
Entrada Sandstone	Jurassic	Mesozoic
Carmel Formation		
Glen Canyon Sandstone		
Chinle Formation		
Moenkopi Formation	Triassic	
Dinwoody Formation		
Park City Formation	Permian	
Weber Sandstone		
Morgan Formation	Pennsylvanian	
Round Valley Limestone		
Doughnut Shale		Paleozoic
Humbug Formation		
Deseret Limestone	Mississippian	
Lodgepole Limestone		
Lodore Formation	Cambrian	
Uinta Mountain Group		
Red Creek Quartzite	Precambrian	

species of willows, red osier dogwood, wildrose, and tamarisk. A complex of horsetails, rushes, sedges, grasses, and docks is also present. Big sagebrush edges down to the limited terrace areas.

The south-facing canyon slope community is dominated by Utah juniper and pinon pine; shrubs and herbs are scattered among exposed soil and bar rock. For about 3 miles (5 km) downriver from Flaming Gorge Dam, the red cedar (or mountain red juniper) is common. Conspicuous shrubs include jointfir, bitterbrush, and broadleaf mountain mahogany.

Tall conifers dominate the more protected north-facing slope community down to Little Hole. Douglas-fir is the most common and ponderosa pine grows either singly or in small groups. Common shrubs are broadleaf mountain mahogany, rock spiraea, bitterbrush, and chokecherry. Below Little Hole begins a gradual transition to pinon-juniper on the north-facing slope. Ponderosa pine continues to stand out on lower slopes and the flats adjacent to the river. Additional generalized information is provided by the vegetative cover map in chapter II.

Wildlife and Fish

The varied topography and vegetation of this segment create a diversity of wildlife habitats. Most wildlife is as it was over a century ago when John Wesley Powell's party first explored the Green; only the grizzly bear and bighorn sheep are gone.

The mule deer is Red Canyon's most common large mammal, frequently watering at the river and gathering in numbers along the limited bottom areas in winter. Elk are well established but tend to stay at higher elevations except when forced down by rare heavy snows. Black bear are common but seldom seen. Because of

large territorial requirements, mountain lions are few. Other mammals include coyotes, bobcats, badgers, ring-tailed cats, porcupines, skunks, beavers, raccoons, weasels, muskrats, and many rodents.

Bird life is also abundant and waterfowl are most frequently seen. Canada geese and several species of ducks--mergansers, mallards, gadwalls, teal--nest along the river, especially below Little Hole and in Browns Park. The high cliffs and abundant prey (rodents, waterfowl, and fish) attract many raptors to Red Canyon, both as year-round residents and to winter. Golden and bald eagles are common, the latter only during the winter. Ospreys, Coopers and sharp-shinned hawks, and four other species of hawks and falcons are present, plus several species of owl.

Small birds are plentiful; blackbirds, swallows, flycatchers, and magpies are common nesting species. There are also interesting specialized associations; for example, flocks of bohemian waxwings gather at Little Hole each winter to feed on red cedar berries.

Ecological studies in 1959 listed the praire falcon as the msot common raptor in the Flaming Gorge basin at that time. This raptor is now uncommon, but it still believed to be a resident. There have been two sightings of peregrine falcons, the last in 1975.

Before the installation of Flaming Gorge Dam, the Green River through Red Canyon was warm water fish habitat. This changed abruptly when the gates were closed. Trout and grayling were introduced, but frigid dam releases and daily fluctuations in water levels have inhibited optimum growth. The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and the Fish and Wildlife Service have compensated for this with a stocking program. Today, all 28.8 miles (46.4 km) of the Green River in Utah above Dinosaur National Monument

(including this entire segment) are rated as a "Class I" fishery. The Utah Department of Natural Resources considers a "Class I" fishery as "large enough to withstand heavy fishing pressure, . . . in scenic surroundings and . . . very productive."² At present, the Green River in Utah accounts for almost half (46.6 percent) of the entire state's "Class I" fisheries.

The Water and Power Resources Service has completed a \$4 million modification of the penstock intakes of Flaming Gorge Dam. The reason for the modification was to warm the frigid dam releases and thereby increase the probability of natural trout reproduction and growth and the productivity of aquatic insects (an important source of trout food). Conditions for a self-sustaining fishery may then exist.

A possible side benefit of the warmer releases may be to increase the range of the endangered or threatened fish that formerly inhabited the Green River above Echo Park. Warmer releases may allow the fish to migrate further up the Green River from the Yampa confluence.

Water Quality

The water quality of the Green from Flaming Gorge Dam downstream to Red Creek (mile 278.8) is excellent and suitable for primary contact (i.e., swimming, wading), except for the prohibitively cold temperature during the late fall and winter. The highest turbidity

2. Utah State Department of Natural Resources, Utah Fishing Waters Inventory and Classification (August 1970), p. 10.

recorded at Little Hole in 1964-1965 was only 62 JTU.³ No major pollutants exist, but drinking the water is discouraged because of the livestock, wildlife, and human use within the area. The water is so clear that the river bottom is visible even in the deep holes.

The Green River and its tributaries are rated "Class C" by the Utah State Division of Health, which means that water quality must be maintained to permit the following uses: domestic water supply after treatment and "aesthetics, irrigation, stock watering, propagation, and perpetuation of fish, other aquatic life, and wildlife, recreation (except swimming), and as a source for industrial supplies."⁴

Red Creek can empty sediments into the Green River during spring runoff and after heavy summer showers. Peak spring flows in Red Creek are around 40 cfs ($1.1 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$) while normal flows in August are less than 5 cfs ($0.1 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$). Daily fluctuations in water levels due to dam releases wash some sediments into the river when the water is rising and at high levels.

Water Flow

Before Flaming Gorge Dam was put into operation, the flows of the Green River were similar to the present flows of the Yampa. From

3. Jackson Turbidity Units, a measurement of water turbidity based on the distance a standard disc can be seen in the water. This rating indicates minimal turbidity.

4. Utah State Division of Health, Code of Waste Disposal Regulations (revised 1968), p. II-6.

base flows in the winter of about 400-500 cfs ($11\text{-}14 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$), the river gradually rose to a spring peak, in May or June, of 10,000-20,000 cfs ($280\text{-}560 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$). The river then fell back to base levels by the end of the summer. It was coldest and clearest in midwinter, with temperatures near 32F (OC), and most turbid in the spring flood, when temperatures had risen into the high 40s and low 50s (about 10C). By late summer the temperature could reach 80F (27C).

Flaming Gorge dam has greatly altered these seasonal flow patterns, replacing them with daily and weekly flow cycles.

Depending on hydropower demands, releases from Flaming Gorge Dam range from 800 cfs ($22.7 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$) to 4,600 cfs ($130.3 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$). At times, however, the flow has dropped to as low as 400 cfs ($11.3 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$). Daily powerload patterns require minimum releases in early morning; these increase sharply at about 8 a.m., and peak in the late afternoon and early evening. Minimum flows are most likely between 11 p.m. and 8 a.m. on weekdays, and during most of the day on Sundays and holidays. The river may rise a foot or two in minutes when releases are stepped up. During the summer recreation season, the Water and Power Resources Service attempts to maintain a minimum 800 cfs ($22.7 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$) daytime flow below the dam; however, this has not always been possible.

This segment of the Green River flows swiftly until Browns Park; thereafter, the velocity averages about 3 mph (4.8 kph) or less. The gradient is moderate: from the dam to Little Hole, 10.7 feet/mile (2.0 m/km); to the end of Red Canyon, 11.3 feet/mile (2.1 m/km). Seven easy rapids lie above Little Hole and two rapids are below. One of the latter is Red Creek Rapids, (Class III), the most severe on the segment with a drop of about 16 feet (4.9 m) in 600 yards (550 m), or 48 feet/mile. It is of moderate difficulty.

Water Use

The only water used from the river in this segment is consumed by stock, wildlife, and recreationists.

Access

Access to Segment A is limited to four sites; the Spillway boat ramp, Little Hole Campground, Fire Flat picnic area, and Indian Crossing. Boat ramps have been developed at Spillway, Little Hole, and Indian Crossing. The gravel roads to the Little Hole and the Spillway boat ramps may be closed during inclement weather to protect the roadbeds and for public safety.

The Utah Highway Department plans to construct a paved road connecting State Highway 260 at Antelope Flats (near Dutch John) with Colorado 318 in Browns Park. If built, this would replace an existing gravel road, providing improved access to this segment from northwestern Colorado and southwestern Wyoming. Paved access is now available via State Highway 44 and 260 north from Vernal, Utah.

A primary access to segments A, B, and C is the Crouse Canyon road, which travels north from Vernal over Diamond Mountain to Swinging Bridge in Browns Park; this is a gravel road.

Land Ownership

The Forest Service administers all lands from the dam downstream to mile 284.0 and lands on the north side of the river to mile 277.6. On the lower reach, Forest Service jurisdiction extends across the river to the high water mark on the south side.

The Vernal District of the Bureau of Land Management manages most of the land on the south bank from mile 282 to mile 277.6 and most of the land on both sides from mile 277.6 to Indian Crossing. This involves about 7.7 river miles (12.3 km).

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources owns approximately 2 miles (3.2 km) along the south bank of the river between the eastern boundary of the Ashley National Forest and the eastern edge of the former Glenn Estate property, southeast of Little Hole Campground. There are no private lands in this segment.

Following are approximate acreages and percentages of government-owned lands in the corridor of Segment A:

TABLE III-1

Land Ownership, Segment A

	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>Percent</u>
U.S. Forest Service	2,880	1,166	54
Bureau of Land Management	1,760	713	37
Utah Division of Wildlife Resources	<u>467</u>	<u>194</u>	<u>9</u>
TOTAL	5,107	2,074	100

Land Use

Recreation is the primary use of the Green River corridor through Red Canyon. Much of the federally administered land is set aside for watershed protection, wildlife habitat, and for the protection of scenic qualities.

Other uses are for livestock grazing in the Bureau of Land Management portion downstream from Little Hole (the allotment is for 330 animal unit months in May to October, on the south side of the river; only a small portion of this use is in the river corridor); a right-of-way for a 26-inch (66-cm) natural gas pipeline owned by the Northwest Pipeline Company; and two electric transmission line rights-of-way, which are also used by telephone lines on the same poles. One is about 3/8 mile (0.6 km) below the Spillway boat ramp and the other parallels the river between Little Hole and Browns Park at distances of 100 yards (91 m) to more than a mile (2 km).

Recreation

Prior to the building of Flaming Gorge Dam, there was little recreation in Red Canyon. However, improved access, new trails and campgrounds, permanent boat ramps, the trout fishery, and the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area have greatly increased use. It is now popular both summer and fall. The 7.5 mile (12.1 km) stretch from the dam to Little Hole is heavily used.

River running in inflatable rafts is becoming increasingly popular. Seven outfitter-guide permits have been authorized (jointly by the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management) for segments A and B. However, most of the commercial river-running use is derived from two private outlets in the Dutch John area. Commercial use in 1978 amounted to 769 river user days, about 5 percent of all rafting use, compared to 72 percent in Dinosaur National Monument.

River rapids in the west are usually too strong for open, rigid craft, but the stretch from the dam to Little Hole offers fast and pleasant running for canoes, kayaks, and dories. Rigid boats account for less than 10 percent of the river use in Red Canyon. No motorboats are allowed above Red Creek Rapids.

Between 15 and 20 percent of the river runners also fish, and many anglers hike along the shore. Warmer water releases have begun to increase water contact recreation in the area, although the river is still quite swift for wading.

In most years the fluctuating flows, but especially the low level flows, through this segment can cause difficulties for rafters and other boaters in maneuvering through rapids and past rocky obstructions, and in "hanging up" on sandbars and other shallow areas in the lower part of the segment. Below the 1,600 cfs (34 m³/s) flow level, larger rafts (over 18 feet or 5.5 m) can find it difficult to get through the segment and also through segment B. At lower flow levels river banks are exposed, which detracts from the appearance of the river and which can make water access more difficult for recreationists. Below a flow of 1,200 cfs (34 m³/s), suitable fish habitat area and the growth of organisms that serve as food for fish are also reduced.

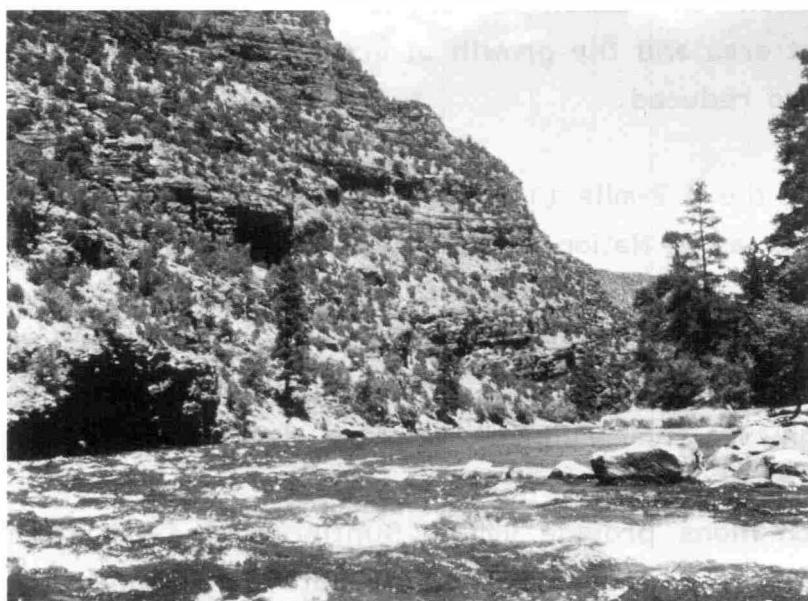
Hiking occurs along the 7.2-mile (11.6-km) Little Hole Trail, which has been established as a National Recreation Trail, and the trail upstream from Browns Park to the Red Creek Float Camp. Trails below Little Hole are not maintained. The only heavy use camping in this segment occurs at Little Hole Campground. Picnicking is done only incidentally by river runners, anglers, and hikers.

Varied wildlife populations provide limited hunting in the fall, beginning with Utah's archery deer season in September. Waterfowl are hunted by boat and jump-shooting from shore.

Off-road vehicle use is unregulated at present between Little Hole and Indian Crossing, and motorcyclists have created a trail downriver towards Red Creek. Between the dam and Little Hole, the river corridor is closed to vehicular use. Four-wheel drive vehicles have also been used to push impromptu roads upstream from Indian Crossing for fishing access.



Red ledges and cliffs of Uinta Mountain Quartzite set off the green of Douglas-fir, Utah juniper, and box elder in Segment A. NPS



Red Canyon has a number of small, sparkling rapids which attract fishermen and boaters. HCRS

Recreation facilities in Red Canyon are limited. The Forest Service's Little Hole Campground, with 17 camping units, vault toilets, and a parking lot and boat ramp, is the only relatively large and well developed site. Other recreation sites include the Spillway Boat Ramp, the Pugmire Pocket and Red Creek Float Stops, the primitive Fire Flat picnic site, and the Indian Crossing site, which includes a boat ramp, vault toilets, and 2 camping and picnicking units; except for the Spillway ramp, all of the foregoing sites are situated below Little Hole and are managed by BLM.

Sanitation has been a concern in this segment, and additional vault toilets may need to be installed in the future.

Historic and Archeologic Resources

Little is known of the pre-history of the Red Canyon segment. Documented archeological work has been limited to field reconnaissance and inventory; sites have been recorded but no systematic sampling has been done. Artifact hunters have taken or destroyed much of the archeologic surface evidence.

There are three sites within a half mile (0.8 km) of the river; one includes a low, irregular wall which may have been a crude fortification and campsite. The other two sites are rough masonry structures, one probably a storage bin and the other either a house or shelter.

Historic sites from the turn of the century era remain along this segment today. These include three relic homesteads in the general vicinity of Little Hole.

SEGMENT B - BROWNS PARK

Physiography and Geology

The 32-mile (51 km) Browns Park segment differs substantially from Red Canyon upstream and the deep canyons downstream in Dinosaur National Monument. Here the Green River meanders across a gentle, rolling valley that is approximately 5 miles (8 km) wide and 30 miles (48 km) long. Alluvial terraces, some rising to 50 feet (15 km), border the river on one or sometimes both sides.

Three small canyons are exceptions to the modest Browns Park relief. Little Swallow Canyon (mile 267.5-267.0), Swallow Canyon (mile 265.9-263.7), and an unnamed cut below the suspension bridge in Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge (mile 260.1-258.3) are all both short and low. Swallow Canyon, with its 400-foot (120-m) stairstep walls, is the most striking of the three.

Structurally, the valley is superimposed on the axis of the Uinta Mountain anticline. It formed partly by downfaulting along the anticlinal crest, and partly by erosion.

Exposed rock covers an immense span of geologic time; the oldest, Red Creed Quartzite, may be 2.3 billion years old and is the source of some sediments preserved in the Uinta Mountain Group.

The Uinta Mountain Group, a Precambrian formation, is up to 1.5 billion years old and is exposed in the three low canyons where the river has cut through northward-projecting spurs of the Uinta Mountains.

The Browns Park Formation is a late Tertiary mix of sandstones, clays, conglomerates, and tuffs extending from Flaming Gorge east to the Elkhead Mountains north of Craig, Colorado. It is known to

be at least 1,500 feet (460 m) thick and about 15 million years old and is visible on many terraces, bluffs, and rounded hills along and near the river.

Quaternary alluvium is evident downriver from Willow Creek in well-developed Pleistocene terraces along the river. They are cut into the Browns Park Formation and were formed during a glacial maximum when the Green River had a greater volume of flow than it does now. Their age may be as young as 10,000 years.

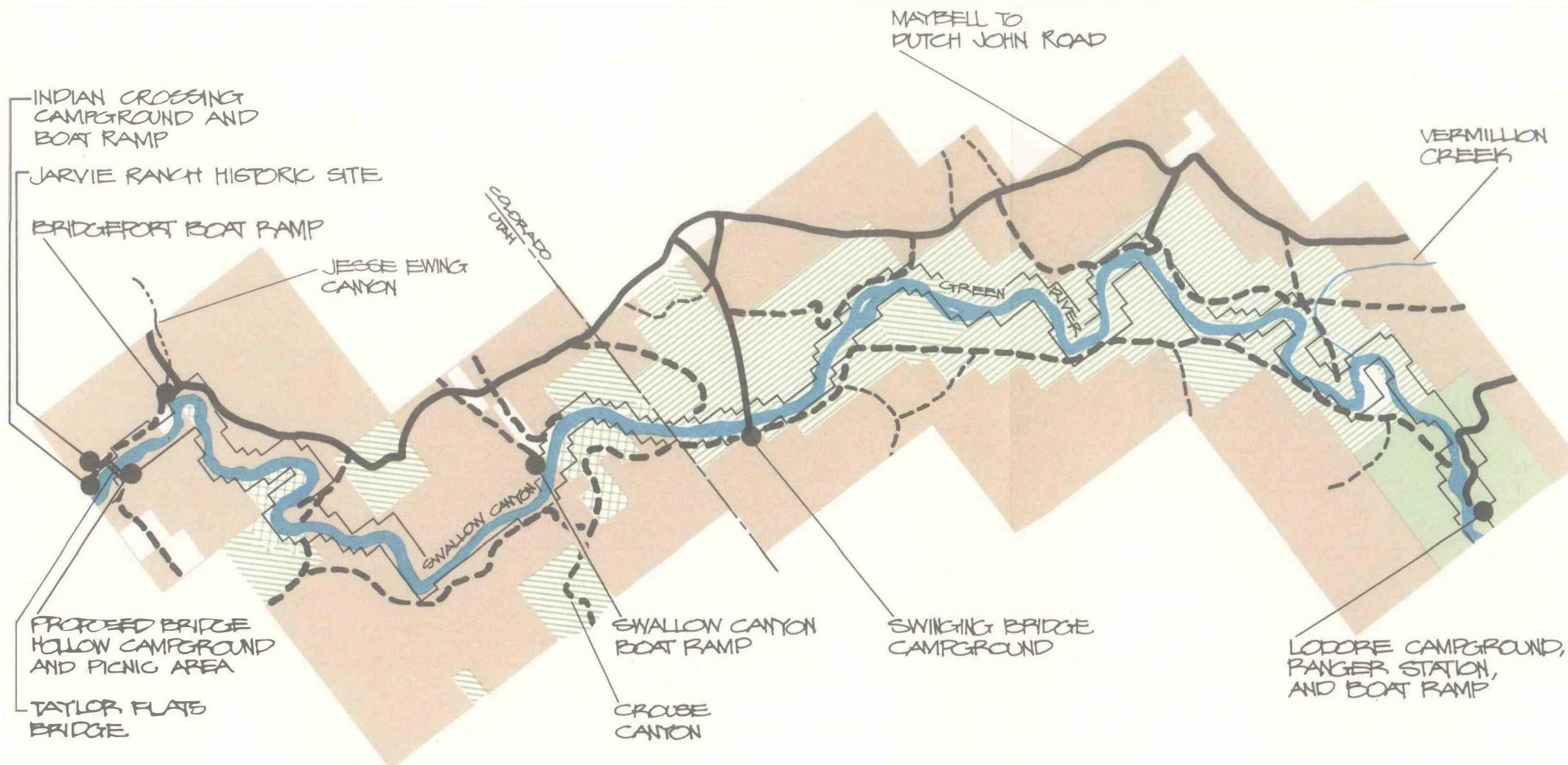
Minerals

As in segment A, known commercial mineral values through the Browns Park segment are low to nonexistent. However, the Browns Park Formation contains large deposits of vitric rhyolitic tuff which has industrial potential as an abrasive in polishing powders, in ceramic glazes, and in enamels. High grade deposits occur in and near the river corridor in Utah.

Much of this area is covered by a Power Site and Reclamation Withdrawal which closed the area to mineral location. Lifting this withdrawal and replacing it with a protective withdrawal has been proposed; if this step is taken the area will still be withdrawn from mineral entry.

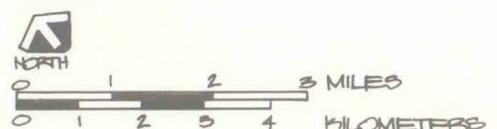
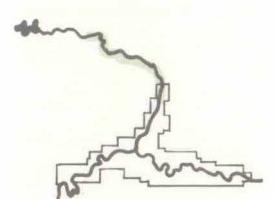
Soils

No detailed soil surveys have been conducted in Browns Park. The soils are of the Typic Calciorthids--Ustollic Haplargids--Typic Torriorthents Association and are relatively deep. The soil ranges from moderately to strongly alkaline.



LEGEND

- RECREATION SITE
- DEVELOPED ROAD
- - SEASONAL ROAD
- - - PRIMITIVE ROAD (4-WHEEL DRIVE)
- DINOSAUR NATIONAL MONUMENT
- PRIVATE LAND
- |||| STATE LAND
- PUBLIC LAND (BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT)
- ||||| BROWNS PARK NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
- ||||| BROWNS PARK STATE WATERFOWL MANAGEMENT AREA (UTAH)
- SUGGESTED WILD AND SCENIC RIVER BOUNDARY LOCATION

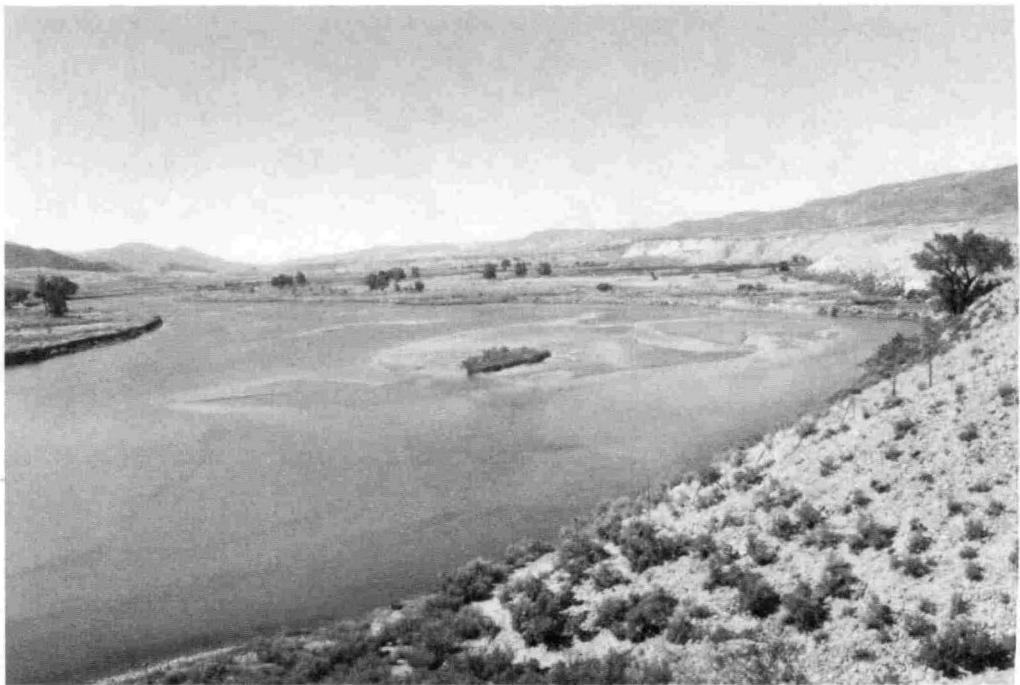


SEGMENT B GREEN RIVER CORRIDOR

GREEN/YAMPA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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In most of Browns Park, the river meanders through a broad terraced valley filled with the whitish Browns Park Formation. NPS

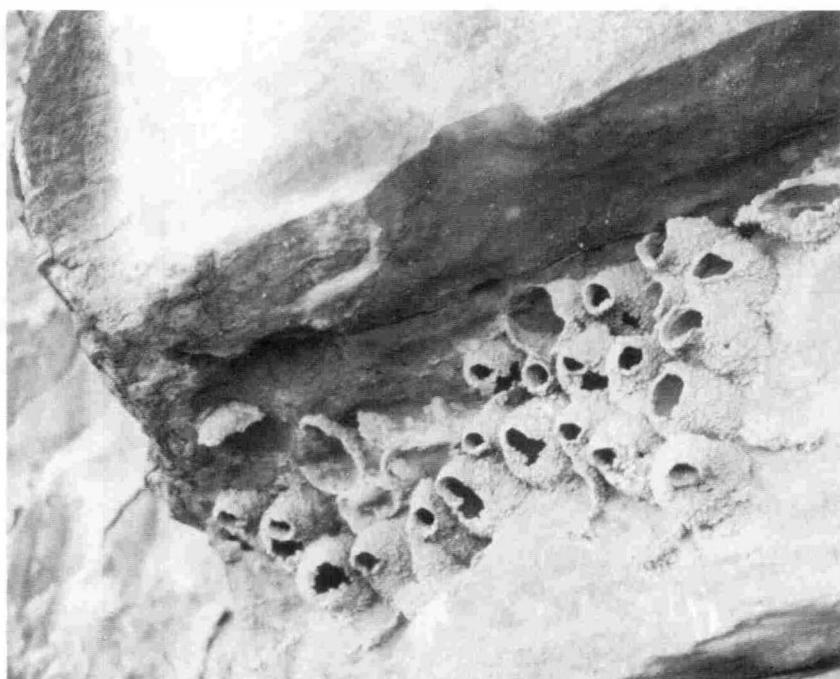
Most soil deposition is a result of repeated flooding of the Green River; weathering and movement of parent materials from surrounding uplands also contribute. Actual soil textures are varied: (a) loams and sandy loams, (b) blankets of sand and clay from recent (Holocene period) floods, and (c) coarse pebbles and cobbles of quartzite and limestone in bench areas. Depending largely on slope, surface thickness ranges from 0 to 36 inches (0 to .9 m). Subsurface soils are generally greater than 40 inches in depth (1 m or more). The content of coarse fragments in the parent material ranges from 10 to 50 percent. Underlying gravel is generally less than 15 percent.

Vegetation

Vegetation falls into two basic categories; riparian and northern desert. A 1976 survey by the Bureau of Land Management noted eight major plant communities in this area: (1) flooded river bank, an association of sedges, small rushes and grasses; (2) marsh, a mix of cattails, bullrushes, reedgrass and sedges; (3) moist river bank, willow-squawbush with a diverse herb understory; (4) well-drained terrace, scattered large cottonwoods sometimes in extensive groves, medium shrubs (big sagebrush, greasewood), and a grassy understory; (5) poorly drained terrace, stands of almost pure saltgrass in a few isolated area; (6) north-facing bank, river birch and Rocky Mountain juniper, with diverse low shrubs and herbs; (7) meadow associations, well away from the river, sage-rabbitbrush and with an understory of grasses--an important vegetative type at lower elevations in Browns Park; and (8) canyon wall associations, on the steep slopes of Little Swallow and Swallow Canyons, a sparse mix of shrubs, small trees, herbs and grasses. Information on the extent of area covered by these communities has not been determined by the managing agencies.



At three points in Browns Park, the superposed river encounters and cleaves spurs of the Uinta Mountains, creating small canyons. Swallow Canyon is shown. HCRS



Swallow Canyon received its name in 1859 when John Wesley Powell and his men noted the colonies of cliff swallows wheeling over the river from their mud nests. HCRS

Wildlife and Fish

Historically, Browns Park has been an exceptionally rich wildlife area. The moderate winter climate has made it a favored winter range for big game, especially deer, elk, and pronghorn. The annual flooding of the river created ample habitat for waterfowl and shorebirds, and many of them are nesters.

The flooding ceased when Flaming Gorge Dam was closed. Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge was created in 1963 to reclaim migratory waterfowl habitat imperiled by the changed waterflow below the dam during breeding season. A network of pumps and dikes was designed to draw water from the river to marshlands that would otherwise be dry. Utah's Browns Park Waterfowl Management Area and other Utah State lands are also managed for wildlife. The efforts have been successful; the Browns Park segment is once again an outstanding haven for large numbers of mammals and birds.

Water Quality

The Utah portion of the Green River in Browns Park is of "Class C" quality according to the State Division of Health. Samples taken at mile 274 in 1975 and 1976 showed a maximum of 9 fecal coliform organisms per 100 ml and a maximum conductivity of 75 mmhos.

The Colorado portion has been examined more extensively at a sampling station at mile 260 (Swinging Bridge). Generally, the Green River meets federal and state standards for aesthetics, bacteriological contaminants, dissolved oxygen, chemical contaminants and radioactivity. Waters here failed to meet the primary contact criteria because of low temperature, slightly high alkalinity (pH), and occasional turbidity caused by silt from

tributary creeks and washes (caused mostly by rainstorms and rapid spring runoffs).

Water Flow

As in Red Canyon, the flows of the Green through Browns Park are controlled by releases from Flaming Gorge Dam. Downriver, the fluctuations become less extreme, since high flows move faster than low flows, and eventually override them.

The rate of flow of the Green River through Browns Park is approximately 1.5 mph (2.4 km/hr). Gradient is about 2 feet/mile (0.4 m/km). Except for a modest riffle at the head of Little Swallow Canyon (mile 267.6), this is a flat water segment.

Water Use

Water use on this segment is as follows:

Mile 274: the Campbell property (now owned by Nature Conservancy) has a 2-inch (51-mm) pipe extending 25 feet (7.6 m) into the river from the north bank. Use is for irrigation and livestock watering; the right is for 4 cfs ($0.11 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$).

Mile 272: the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources has a pump on the north shore, also for waterfowl. Right is for 10 cfs ($0.28 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$).

Mile 262.5: the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources has a diversion on the south shore to provide for waterfowl habitat adjacent to the river. Total right is for 28 cfs ($0.79 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$).



Great blue heron nests are often found in the cottonwood trees in Browns Park. HCRS



A pronghorn (antelope) grazes by the river in Brown's Park. HCRS

Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge: the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has 89.41 cfs (2.50 m³/s) in water rights at 15 ditch locations. Priorities date back to the late 1800s. Most water is pumped directly from the Green River, but some is diverted from Beaver Creek.

At present six pumps are installed to draw water from the river to marshes, shallow lakes, and bottomlands back from the river for shore-birds, nongame wildlife, and waterfowl. Additional development plans call for another six pumps in the river, and some additional dikes.

Access

Access to the Utah portion of the Browns Park segment is available at four developed Bureau of Land Management (or cooperative BLM-Utah Wildlife Division) sites. They are the Indian Crossing boat ramp, the Bridge Hollow campground, and the Bridgeport and Swallow Canyon boat ramps. Gravel roads approach the river at several points as do extemporized four-wheel drive routes. The Swallow Canyon boat ramp (mile 263.4) is the main access point for float trips through Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge.

Within Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge in Colorado, many mostly primitive roads lead to the river's edge, but only two designated boat launching sites, ramps at Swinging Bridge and Crook campgrounds, are provided for public use.

Land Ownership

A total of 9.6 miles (15.4 km) of the Green River in Utah are overseen by the Vernal District of the Bureau of Land Management.

One parcel that fronts on 0.75 miles (1.20 km) of the north shore of the Green River in Browns Park is administered by the Utah State Land Board. Six parcels (five separated areas) involving 6.4 miles (10.2 km) of river shoreline are managed by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.

Three private holdings in Utah are scattered between river miles 273.8 and 262.8, occupying approximately 1 mile (1.6 km) of shoreline.

The Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge, which covers 14,129 acres (5,720 ha), is the only federal jurisdiction along the 16-mile (26-km) portion of the segment in Colorado. The refuge includes 1,305 acres (528 ha) leased from the state and 280 acres (113 ha) in a private inholding. The private tract involves 0.6 miles (1.0 km) of riverfront.

TABLE III - 2
Land Ownership, Segment B

	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Bureau of Land Management	3,070	1,243	30
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	4,990	2,020	49
National Park Service	800	324	8
Utah	1,020	413	10
Private	<u>370</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>3</u>
TOTAL	10,250	4,150	100

Land Use

Wildlife habitat, waterfowl production, and public use are the principal land uses in the Browns Park corridor. All Utah Division

of Wildlife Resources and Fish and Wildlife Service lands are devoted to these uses.

Public lands are used primarily for recreation and livestock grazing; four Bureau of Land Management grazing allotments border the river. Cattle grazing is generally restricted from the river by fencing.

Lands administered by the Utah State Land Board are under grazing lease to three operators; however, grazing within the river corridor on state lands is minimal. Private lands are used for ranching--primarily hay and livestock production.

Recreation

Browns Park remains a generally undiscovered corner of the West as far as recreation is concerned. Holiday and weekend use is heaviest, from June to September, with some hunting in the fall. The Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge is closed to fishing from March 15 to June 15 to minimize disturbance to nesting waterfowl. Floating is not prohibited during this period, although it is not encouraged. Specific portions of the refuge may be closed at times during the hunting season.

Rafting in inflatable craft is infrequent; in 1975, four commercial outfitters ran a total of nine trips and took 154 customers through Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge. Use is not expected to increase dramatically, for most commercial river-running operations are geared to the excitement of fast water and dramatic canyon scenery in the segments below. In addition, the daily flow fluctuations mentioned in segment A sometimes make it difficult to run the Browns Park segment; boats must be dragged across sandbars.

As visitor numbers become regulated on more western rivers to prevent overuse, the recreational significance of lightly used stretches of water such as the Green River through Browns Park will increase. The opportunities for flat water boating recreation in Browns Park, when combined with fishing, hiking, bird watching, camping, and visiting historic sites, are excellent.

Improved hunting, especially for waterfowl, is a major goal of the Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge. Ducks and geese are hunted along the river and in meadows and marshes back from the bank. Deer hunting is also excellent.

The refuge plans 6,000 hunter days annually; in 1976, a total of 700 hunter days were logged, half of these for waterfowl and half for deer and small game.

As a result of the recent penstock modification in Flaming Gorge Dam, fishing in the Green River through Browns Park is expected to improve. The goal for Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge is 5,000 fisherman-days annually; in 1976, fishing accounted for about 4,000 visitor days of use.

The 1967 master plan for the refuge projects a goal of 30,000 visitor days annually for nature enjoyment, a nonconsumptive recreational activity which could include photography, bird and animal watching, nature-oriented hiking, and plant identification and study.

Camping is permitted at BLM's Indian Crossing and Bridge Hollow sites and at the Bridgeport and Swallow Canyon boat ramps. In the refuge, camping is permitted at Swinging Bridge and Crook campgrounds. None of these sites have complete facility developments. Camping within the refuge and at the BLM sites accounted for approximately 1,750 visitor days in 1976.

Historic and Archeologic Resources

Archeological data from Browns Park are limited because no systematic surveys have been made. However, enough work has been done to indicate that this entire segment has outstanding archeologic and historic values.

On the Utah portion of the Browns Park segment, five sites of unknown provenance have been inventoried within 1/4 mile (.4 km) of the river--four surface campsites, and one of lithic scatter.

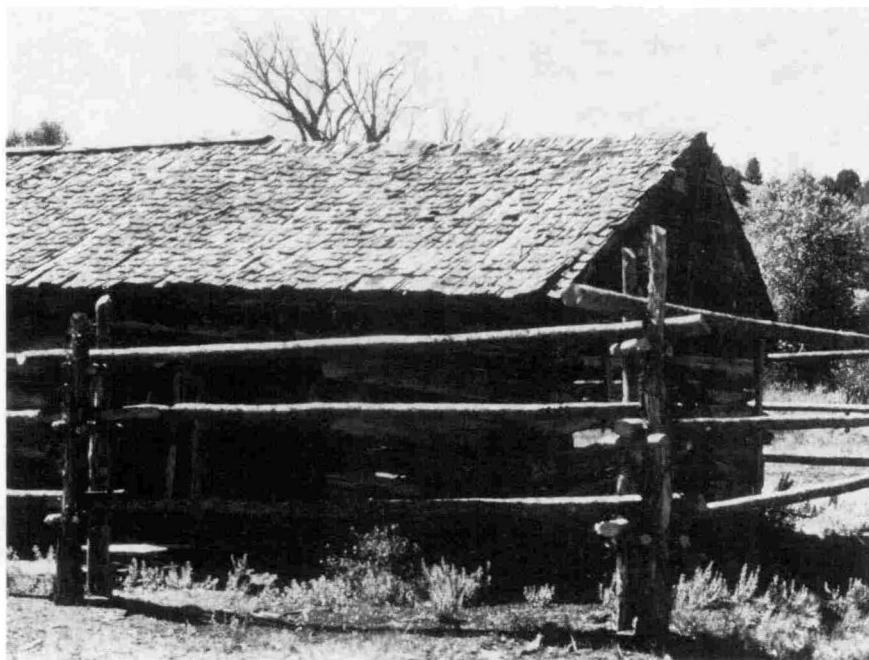
In 1975 and 1976, a National Park Service team conducted studies at and near a site in Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge now believed to be a late 1830s Indian-White contact site. In addition to evidence of the trading period, upper deposits have revealed facts about a ferry operation; lower deposits are of an unknown (apparently) Indian occupation. In addition, tipi rings, bedrock mortars, pictographs, petroglyphs, and camp or village sites were noted nearby. There is substantial rock art in canyons feeding the Green River.

In 1976, the office of the Colorado State Archeologist examined the Browns Park segment and found numerous buried cultural components in the eroding river banks and soil conditions suited to "excellent biotic preservation."

Browns Park was an early interface between Great Basin, Plains, and Southwestern Indian Cultures. From about A.D. 400 to 700, the western Colorado-eastern Utah area was site of the Fremont Culture--people who hunted, gathered food, raised simple crops, and made pottery. Browns Park marked the northeastern limit of this culture, which was the first in this area to live in villages. More recently, the Ute (from the south) and Shoshone (from the north) have occupied Browns Park sporadically. The area was also



Placid canoeing water and a diversity of wildlife help produce outstanding recreation in Browns Park. Taylor Flats Bridge. BLM



Browns Park is rich in historic resources dating from prehistoric times to present. This cabin remains from the period before the turn of the century, when ranchers, outlaws, and the first river runners shared the valley. HCRS

a rendezvous for fur trappers and Indians in the 1830s. By the 1890s, the area supported ranchers and outlaws, including the Wild Bunch.

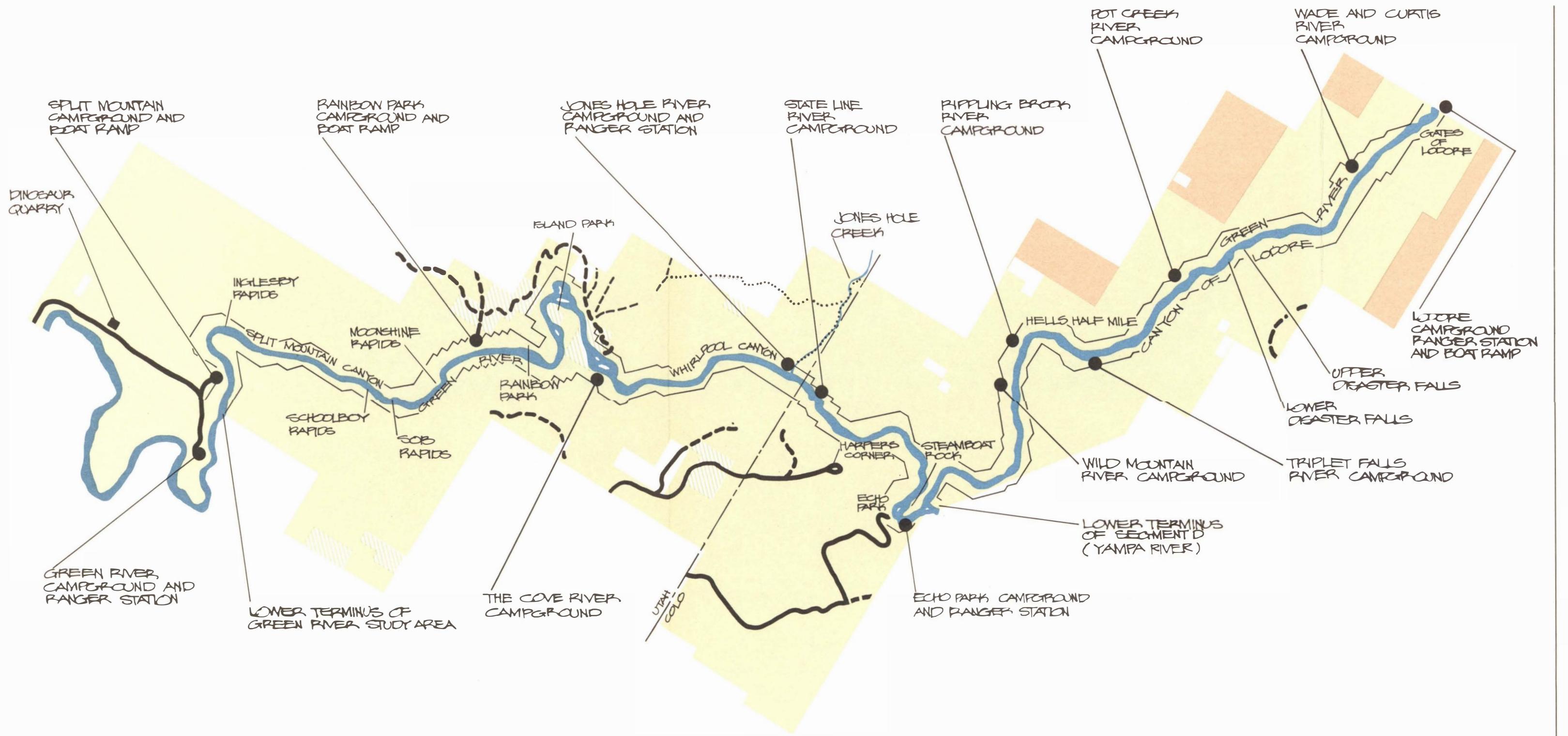
Many historic sites from this recent period still exist in Browns Park, including old log ranch buildings, homesteads, bridge and ferry sites, a school and several cemeteries. The old Parsons Cabin above Swallow Canyon, on the National Register of Historic Places, is believed to be the earliest existing building in Browns Park; it burned in 1978. Three other important historic sites include the Lodore School (now a local community hall), the Two Bar Ranch (relic of the cattle baron days of the 1890s), and the John Jarvie Ranch. The school is on the National Register of Historic Places; both the ranches and the Indian-White contact site have been nominated for inclusion. The BLM plans to restore the Jarvie Ranch and remove extraneous materials from the site.

In addition, Browns Park may also have significant paleontological values. A mastodon of Miocene age was found in the Browns Park Formation near the town of Greystone, and mammoths have been excavated from Pleistocene alluvium near Maybell. Although both these areas are situated well outside the Browns Park area, similar finds could be made in the park.

SEGMENT C - LODORE THROUGH SPLIT MOUNTAIN CANYONS

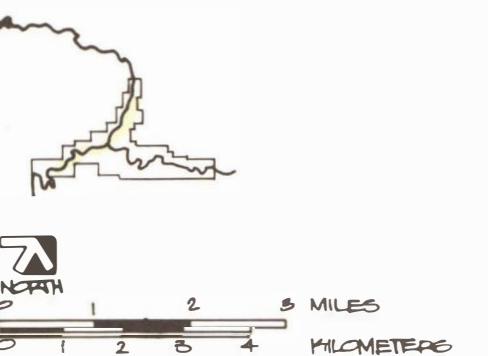
Physiography and Geology

Flowing through Dinosaur National Monument, this 44-mile (70.8-km) segment of the Green River has carved three deep canyons; it also passes through three broad, open "parks" and a smaller but still expansive "hole." The dominant feature behind these landmarks is the Uinta Mountain Range which exhibits several major geologic processes.



LEGEND

- RECREATION SITE
- DEVELOPED ROAD
- - - SEASONAL ROAD
- - - PRIMITIVE ROAD (4-WHEEL DRIVE)
- DINOSAUR NATIONAL MONUMENT
- PRIVATE LAND
- ▨ STATE LAND
- PUBLIC LAND (BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT)
- TRAIL
- SUGGESTED WILD AND SCENIC RIVER BOUNDARY LOCATION



SEGMENT C GREEN RIVER CORRIDOR

GREEN/YAMPA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY

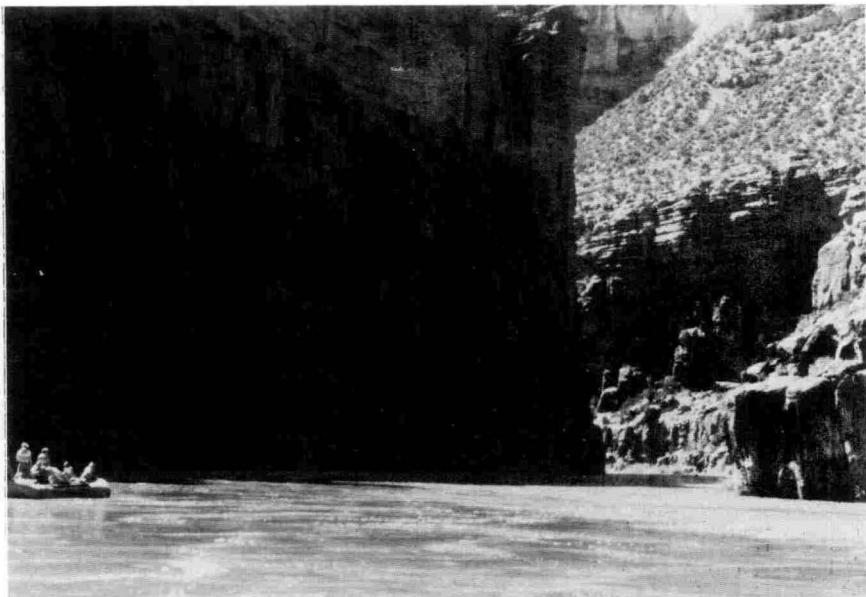
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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The first canyon in Dinosaur National Monument is Lodore, which begins approximately 2.7 miles (4.3 km) downstream from the monument boundary. Lodore's steep, rough fractured walls are primarily cut through the Precambrian Uinta Mountain Group. This formation is composed of metamorphosed sandstones, shales, and conglomerates originally laid down in a shallow-water environment beginning about 1.5 billion years ago. Much of the Uinta Mountain Group is maroon to deep brown in color, but as the light alters the rock varies in color from pink through red to orange. High on the rims, approximately 10 miles (16 km) into the canyon, the pink and buff colored late Cambrian Lodore Formation appears, capped by the light brown ledges of three Mississippian limestone formations; these are the Lodgepole, Deseret, and Humbug. All were deposited by seas which repeatedly flooded the area. The Lodore Formation contains fossil brachiopods, trilobites, and other marine crustaceans which are the oldest such remains found in the monument.

Lodore is the deepest canyon in the monument. Its greatest depth is near Rippling Brook where the inner canyon walls are about 3,400 feet (1,040 m) high. The maximum height of the outer canyon is about 3,800 feet (1,160 m).

Along its last 2 miles (3.2 km), Lodore Canyon undergoes an abrupt change approaching the Mitten Park Fault, one of several in the monument which developed during later periods of uplift. The river passes out of the upthrust block, and the Pennsylvanian Morgan Formation appears on the left bank. When in Echo Park, the river has crossed the fault and a massive fin of Weber sandstone dominates; this is Steamboat Rock, younger than the Morgan and composed of Pennsylvanian and Permian dune sands. The age of the Morgan is about 270 million years while the Weber is about 240 million years old--another testimony to the diverse origins of rocks exposed along this segment.



The geologic diversity of Whirlpool Canyon caused John Wesley Powell to consider two different names for it. At the upper end, sinister sheer walls of Uinta Mountain Quartzite produce whirlpools and boils. Flow about 20,000 cfs ($570 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$). HCRS



By the lower end of the canyon, the river has passed upsection into younger formations. The cliffs, amphitheaters and narrow sheer ridges suggested the name Craggy Canyon, later rejected in favor of the name the canyon now bears. HCRS

Whirlpool Canyon, 10 miles (16.1 km) long and immediately downstream from Echo Park, continues this diversity; it is the most geologically varied short stretch of river on the Green's entire 730-mile (1,175 km) length. At the head of Whirlpool Canyon, the river re-crosses the Mitten Park fault. Once again, the throw of the fault is about 3,300 feet (1,000 m) so the river passes from Weber sandstone into the rocks of the ancient Precambrian Uinta Mountain Group; in a few hundred yards, the rock record of 1.2 billion years of geologic time is traversed.

Near its midpoint, Whirlpool Canyon opens briefly on the north or right bank at Jones Hole, where a long, U-shaped side canyon carved by Jones Hole Creek meets the river. Jones Hole Creek rises from springs in the early Pennsylvanian Round Valley limestone 5 miles (8.1 km) back from the river. Cambrian, Mississippian, and Pennsylvanian rocks are exposed in this side canyon. It has many deep, narrow tributary branches and draws that have earned the name of the Diamond Mountain Labyrinth.

Whirlpool is a relatively straight, deep canyon; maximum depth is 2,100 feet (640 m) to the inner rim and more than 3,300 feet (1,000 m) to the outer rim (Wild Mountain Summit).

In sharp contrast to the canyon physiography, Island and Rainbow Parks are vast and open. At the head of this meandering stretch of river, the Green crosses steeply drag-folded rocks along the Island Park Fault and moves into yet another geologic era, the Mesozoic. First to appear is Glen Canyon (or Navajo) sandstone (late Triassic to early Jurassic) which is distinctly crossbedded. Next in view are the yellowish-brown cliffs of Entrada sandstone and, below the Entrada, the Carmel. Above the Entrada is the Curtis which in turn is overlain by the Morrison Formation, all late Jurassic. The high mountain slopes surrounding Island Park on the east and south are topped by strata of the Morgan, Weber, and Park City Formations.

Lastly, the Green River loops out of Rainbow Park and into Split Mountain Canyon. Split Mountain is an anticlinal fold also shaped by portions of the Island Park Fault. How the Green came to flow through this uplift is not known. The most probable explanation is that the river established its course in overlying layers of the Browns Park formation which have long since eroded away. At that time, the structures that would become Split Mountain were buried under thousands of feet of sediments, emerging only later when erosion exposed the harder rocks of the anticline. Long before that, however, the Green was well entrenched in its course, so it had to cut the harder rocks when it encountered them, producing the striking canyon now visible.

Rocks exposed in Split Mountain Canyon are again varied. Sharply folded Weber sandstone appears at the mouth. Thereafter, Morgan limestone, Round Valley limestone, the Humbug Formation, and Deseret limestone occur. The Deseret is the low point reached in the geologic section; then the river crosses progressively younger beds to the Weber sandstone at which point the river leaves Split Mountain Canyon.

In total, the canyon rocks in Dinosaur National Monument span over 1.4 billion years and involve 13 different formations. Unusually dramatic evidence of faulting is seen near Echo Park, at the head of Island Park, and at the mouth of Split Mountain Gorge.

Minerals

While minerals like zinc, copper, and iron are found in the monument, none are known to exist in sufficient quantity anywhere in this river segment or in the whole of Dinosaur National Monument to be worth mining at present. Mining in the monument is prohibited, and there are no valid existing claims.



The open, gentle topography of Island and Rainbow Parks provides a sharp contrast to the predominant canyon physiography of Segment C.
Looking downriver at Island Park; the foot of Whirlpool Canyon may be seen at the upper left. NPS

Soils

As in segment B, no comprehensive soil survey has been attempted in Dinosaur National Monument, so detailed soils data are lacking. Generally speaking, shallow, rocky, and well-drained steeply-sloping soils are most extensive. The surface of this type is a thin, moderately dark loam. No more than 20 inches (51 cm) beneath is quartzite or limestone bedrock.

Deep soils without high stone and cobble content are present only in valleys and at the bases of slopes. These soils may be loamy or quite sandy. Areas of bare sand also exist. The river bottom-type soils are often alkaline and sometimes unstable because of deposition or erosion by floods. Most recreation sites in the monument are situated on the more stable of the river bottom-type soils.

The soils types are primarily of the Lithic Ustic Torriorthents--Ustic Torriorthents Association, and the Lithic Haploborolls--Rock Land--Aridic Argiborolls Association. For additional information, see the soils map in the description of segment A.

Vegetation

As in segment A (Red Canyon), the Green River corridor in Dinosaur National Monument supports a diversity of vegetative types and associations. Broadly speaking, this is an area of many ecotones. Mountains meet high desert, and both are bisected by the river canyons and their riparian zones.

No systematic survey of vegetative communities in the Green River corridor has been made. However, the following compendium of

information was drawn from several collections and various observations.

In Lodore Canyon, the dominant trees are box elder (along the river), Utah juniper, and pinon pine (the last two on the canyon slopes). Douglas-fir grows on some north-facing slopes, and ponderosa pine on the larger stream terraces. The canyon also contains two hackberry groves near its lower end, which are the dominant trees in this locality.

Major species along streambanks include golden aster, various poa species (bluestem-type grasses), Indian ricegrass, and needle-and-thread.

Among the plants found at Trailer Draw (mile 238.7) are Oregon grape, brittle fern, squawbush, poison ivy, dogbane, ocean spray, scouring rush, mockorange, snowberry, giant wild rye, and thickspike wheatgrass. Fendlerella has been found between Triplet Falls and Echo Park.

Douglas-fir dominates the steep canyon walls of Whirlpool Canyon-Jones Hole; pinon pines thin out and then disappear downriver. Rock spiraea also hugs the precipitous slopes. The flora at Jones Hole is particularly varied and includes box elder, rushes, snowberry, prairie cordgrass, and sedge.

In Island Park-Rainbow Park, large cottonwoods are most notable, including one of Utah's largest in circumference. In one location, Utah junipers grow down to the river. Sagebrush is the dominant shrub, and greasewood is prominent. Two species of broomrape and several small hawthorne trees have also been noted. Tamarisk have colonized the stream banks extensively.

Utah junipers dominate growth on the canyon walls and slopes of Split Mountain Canyons. Douglas-fir, ponderosa pine, cottonwood, and boxelder grow near the river. One endangered plant, the breviflora species of Cryptantha, may be found in the Island Park.

Wildlife and Fish

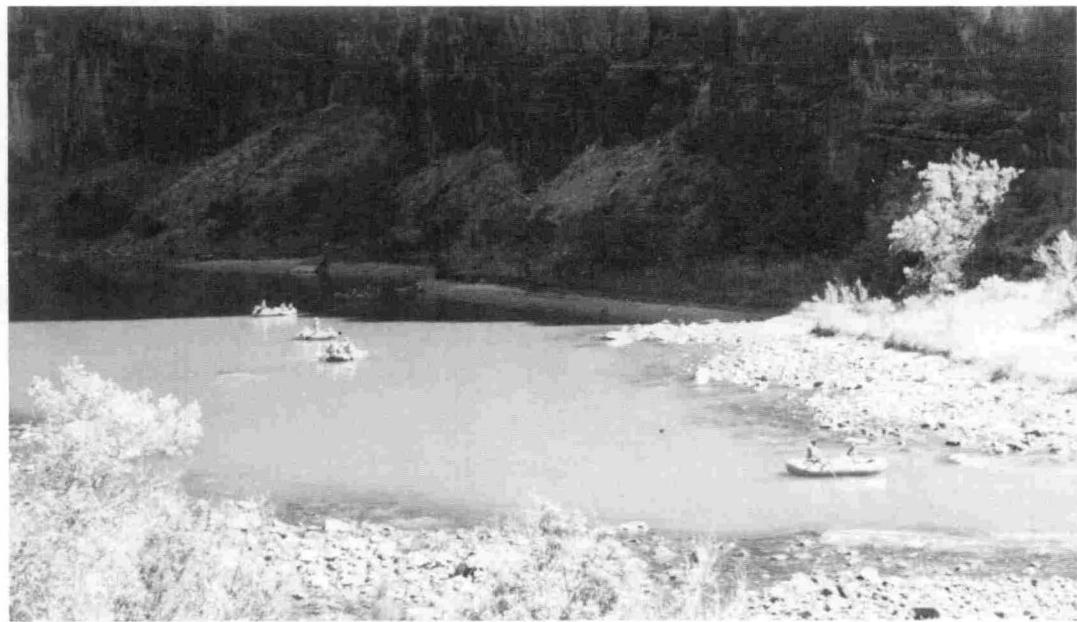
Wildlife. The general profile of wildlife populations is similar to that of Red Canyon with the exception of bighorn sheep, which are present through Lodore Canyon to Echo Park and Harpers Corner. The bighorn herd occupies only a portion of its historic range, mostly the narrow strip along the river. The range is used year-round, a fact which may be detrimental to the population. National Park Service biologists estimate the herd numbers between 80 and 90.

Mule deer are the most numerous large mammals in the Green River corridor. Although some of them migrate out of the monument to higher summer range, many appear to be permanent residents along the river. A 1972 survey in Lodore Canyon noted 31 deer and only 7 bighorns. Elk appear to be increasing in the monument, but they rarely venture to the canyon bottoms. The black bear is extirpated in the monument except for occasional transients, and the mountain lion has been reduced by hunting outside of the monument boundaries. The monument itself is too small to contain a resident population of lions. Other mammals in or near the Green River corridor include coyote, bobcat, fox, badger, skunk, ringtail (rare), muskrat, weasels, mink, marmot, and various chipmunks and squirrels, mice, and rats. Beaver are common along the river where they feed primarily on cottonwoods and box elders.

Within recent years, feral horses increased at a rapid rate to about 650 in and adjacent to the monument; these have now been



Bighorn Sheep are common in Lodore Canyon.



After the closing of Flaming Gorge Dam, seasonal high stages of about 15,000 cfs ($425 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$), indicated by the line of dark trees in the background, became daily peaks of about 3,200 cfs ($91 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$), indicated by the rocky bank. Low flows shown here (800 cfs or $23 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$) can cause difficulty. Winnies Rapid (Little Stinker). Earl Perry

captured and removed. A possibly significant overlap exists between the plant types consumed by these feral animals and those by bighorn sheep; a minor diet overlap exists with deer.

Avian life in the canyons and broader parks is varied. A 1972 survey of Canada goose nests along the river suggested that about 200 goslings are produced annually. Other nesting waterfowl include mallards and green wing teals. The canyon walls are important nesting sites for golden eagles, turkey vultures, peregrine falcons, and other raptors. Bald eagles frequent the river corridor in the winter. Songbird populations are diverse; mountain bluebirds, meadowlarks, wrens, and robins commonly nest near the river. Cliff swallows and their nests are commonly seen on rock faces above the river.

The Green River in Dinosaur National Monument is significant habitat for the endangered peregrine falcon. Active nests were observed in Echo Park in 1972, 1973, 1975, and 1977; five other sightings are recorded in the monument in 1974, 1975 and 1976. Two other inactive eyries are known, one in Whirlpool Canyon and one in Split Mountain.

Fish. The fishery on this section of the Green River breaks into two distinct sub-segments. One is above the confluence with the Yampa in Echo Park; the other is below. Through Lodore Canyon, the influence of the relatively cold, daily fluctuating releases from Flaming Gorge Dam remains the dominant factor. In this reach, turbidity increases, while temperatures moderate somewhat, as do the daily fluctuations in river level. The greater turbidity tends to downgrade the quality of the trout fishery, but rainbow, brown trout, and rainbow-cutthroat hybrid trout exist in the Green downstream to Echo Park. Other species include flannelmouth and bluehead sucker, speckled dace, roundtail chub, carp, Utah chub, creek chub, fathead minnow, red side shiner, white sucker,

channel catfish, and black bullhead. Of the 14 species of fish now known in the Green River through Lodore Canyon, only 9 were present before Flaming Gorge Dam. The 5 others (brown and rainbow trout, Utah chub, fathead minnow, and white sucker) are present by virtue of the dam-altered aquatic ecosystem, or stocking.

Below Echo Park, the unregulated flow of the Yampa River greatly alters the Green River fishery. Pre-impoundment conditions are partially restored and a number of endemic, warm-water species continue to survive. Four of these, the Colorado River squawfish, the humpback and bonytail chubs, and the humpback sucker, are either endangered or proposed for the federal Threatened and Endangered List. The status of each is discussed under wildlife and fish of the Yampa River segment.

Water Quality

No water quality tests have been run on the Green River in the monument. Generally speaking, conditions are similar to those in Browns Park, with a substantial seasonal increase in turbidity from the Yampa River. The Yampa also adds about 100 tons (90 metric tons) per day of salts, most of this attributable to irrigation discharge from river bottom lands upstream. In addition, its summer flow warms the colder waters of the Green.

Water Flow

Water flow above the confluence of the Yampa River is a downstream extension of conditions prevailing for the Green in Red Canyon and Browns Park. Daily fluctuations in flow through Lodore Canyon, similar to that on the upper segments, usually range from 800 to

4,100 cfs (22.7 to 116.1 m³/s). Flows can drop to as little as 400 cfs (11.3 m³/s) and exceed 5,000 cfs (141.6 m³/s), although flows at either of these extremes are unusual.

The river gradient through Lodore is approximately 15 feet/mile (2 m/km) and rate of flow averages 4 to 5 mph (6 to 8 km/hr). This stretch of the Green River contains numerous rapids. Among the major whitewater runs are Winnie's Rapid, Upper and Lower Disaster Falls, Harp Falls, Triplet Falls, and Hell's Half Mile. Below Echo Park, the inflow of the Yampa increases and alters the Green's flow significantly, especially in the spring when peaks of more than 20,000 cfs (570 m³/s) are recorded.

Table III-3 shows average monthly and annual discharges (as well as average monthly water temperatures) of the Green River near Jensen, Utah, below the confluence of the two rivers. Since tributary inflow below the confluence is small, these figures closely approximate Green River flows at the Yampa mouth. Depending on the season, the Yampa River inflow moderates the magnitude of diurnal fluctuation on the Green River due to dam releases.

Water Use

Other than one very small irrigation diversion on state land in Island Park, no water is diverted from the Green River in Dinosaur National Monument.

Access

Access into segment C is available at four points: (1) Echo Park, with a dirt road leading to a boat ramp, car campground, and ranger station (mile 225.0); (2) Island Park, served by a dirt road

Table III-3
Average Discharge and Water Temperature of the Green River Near Jensen, Utah¹ (1970-1976)
Average Monthly and Annual Discharge

Water Year	October		November		December		January		February		March	
	cfs	m ³ /s	cfs	m ³ /s	cfs	m ³ /s	cfs	m ³ /s	cfs	m ³ /s	cfs	m ³ /s
1970	2,950	83.5	2,881	81.6	3,731	105.6	2,437	71.8	2,147	60.8	2,292	64.9
1971	1,939	54.9	1,878	53.2	1,953	55.3	2,489	70.5	1,790	50.7	2,595	73.5
1972	2,289	64.8	3,275	92.8	3,603	102.1	3,122	88.4	3,703	104.9	3,600	102.0
1973	3,655	103.5	4,233	119.9	4,071	115.3	3,927	111.2	4,287	121.4	3,022	85.6
1974	2,814	79.7	3,216	91.1	3,027	85.8	2,707	76.7	1,401	39.7	2,622	74.3
1975	3,422	96.9	3,154	89.3	2,842	80.5	2,941	83.3	3,437	97.4	2,632	74.6
1976	1,872	53.0	2,649	75.0	3,999	113.3	3,462	98.1	2,824	80.0	3,115	88.2
Average	2,720	76.6	3,041	86.1	3,318	94.0	3,012	85.7	2,798	79.3	2,840	80.4
Percent	5%		5%		6%		5%		5%		5%	
Water Year	April		May		June		July		August		September	
	cfs	m ³ /s	cfs	m ³ /s	cfs	m ³ /s	cfs	m ³ /s	cfs	m ³ /s	cfs	m ³ /s
1970	3,931	111.3	12,930	366.1	12,480	353.4	4,930	139.6	2,840	80.4	2,448	69.3
1971	7,128	201.9	10,570	299.4	13,160	372.8	4,629	131.1	2,762	78.2	2,550	72.2
1972	4,920	139.4	9,685	274.4	9,977	282.6	3,554	100.7	2,913	82.5	1,775	50.3
1973	3,694	104.6	14,000	396.6	12,020	340.5	5,660	160.3	4,016	113.8	2,949	83.5
1974	5,806	164.5	16,870	477.9	11,770	333.4	3,146	89.1	2,738	77.6	2,537	71.9
1975	3,193	90.5	9,141	259.0	14,160	401.1	8,835	250.3	4,002	113.4	1,979	56.1
1976	4,675	132.4	11,400	322.9	9,441	267.5	4,181	118.4	3,032	85.9	2,812	79.7
Average	4,764	135	12,085	342.3	11,858	335.9	4,991	141.4	3,186	90.3	2,436	69.0
Percent	8%		21%		21%		9%		6%		4%	

Average Monthly Water Temperature in Degrees Fahrenheit and Celsius (1962-1966)

	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
°F	56	44	34	32	34	39	48	57	63	68	67	61
°C	13	7	1	0	1	4	9	14	17	20	19	16

¹Gaging station is located 3 miles (4.8 km) downstream from the Split Mountain boat ramp and 14 miles (22.5 km) upstream from the Jensen Bridge.

Source: NPS - Dinosaur National Monument Draft River Management Plan (1977).

on the north side of the river to old Ruple Ranch and to the river opposite Big and Buck Islands (mile 213.5-215.0); (3) Rainbow Park, with a dirt road to the Rainbow Park boat ramp at the head of Split Mountain Canyon, where a small primitive campground is available (mile 207.8); and (4) Split Mountain, served by a paved road to the boat landing and developed car campground at the mouth of canyon (mile 199.5). Most rafters gain access to segment C via a gravel road into the Gates of Lodore launching site, off of Colorado Highway 318. This access is actually within the lower end of segment B.

A foot trail through Jones Hole Canyon connects the national fish hatchery and road on upper Jones Hole Creek with the Green River at Jones Hole Campground. Another foot trail follows Ely Creek and connects Island Park with Jones Hole Canyon. Otherwise the main canyons are accessible only by boat.

Land Ownership

Title to all but two parcels of land within the Green River corridor is held by the National Park Service. These two are in Island Park and are held by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.

TABLE III-4
Land Ownership, Segment C

	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>Percent</u>
National Park Service	13,600	5,510	96
Utah Division of Wildlife Resources	510	200	4
TOTAL	14,110	5,710	100

Land Use

About 1,600 acres (650 ha) of the Green River corridor are under National Park Service grazing permit in the Browns Park, and Island Park grazing allotments, although little of the former is in segment C. Cattle make minimal contact with riverbanks; however, most cattle and sheep grazing occurs during winter months. There is no grazing east of the river in Island Park.

In Dinosaur National Monument, the National Park Service has proposed designation of 205,672 acres (83,268 ha) as wilderness and 5,055 acres (2,047 ha) as potential wilderness addition. If the proposal is passed, approximately 95 percent of the river corridor will be designated wilderness.

Recreation

The principal recreational use of the Green River corridor is whitewater boating, with about 90 percent of it in inflatable rubber rafts, and the other 10 percent in kayaks. In 1972, approximately 94 percent of this activity took place between May and August.

From 1967 to 1972, boating use in the whole monument increased by 589 percent. The increase in demand for privately run trips has been greater than that for commercially run trips. The great increase in popularity for both types of river running moved the Park Service to limit total river use in the monument at approximately 17,000 people (40,000 user-days) per year. All trips are run under permit from the National Park Service and use is carefully regulated and scheduled.

A new river management plan went into effect in December, 1979. The primary changes this plan will make in river use and

LEGEND

-  PROPOSED WILDERNESS
-  POTENTIAL WILDERNESS ADDITION
-  EXISTING MONUMENT BOUNDARY
-  STATE LAND RIGHTS
-  PRIVATE LAND
-  *
-  MAJOR ROAD
-  PRIMITIVE ROAD - MAINTAINED
-  PRIMITIVE ROAD - UNMAINTAINED
-  TRAIL
-  RIVER CAMPGROUND

ACREAGES

GROSS PARK 225,156
 FEDERAL LAND 218,940
 NONFEDERAL LAND 6,216

UNIT	POTENTIAL	WILDERNESS ADDITION
	WILDERNESS	
GREEN - YAMPA 1	179,979	4,172
BLUE MOUNTAIN 2	25,693	883
TOTAL	205,672	5,055



WILDERNESS PLAN

Dinosaur National Monument
 Utah - Colorado

United States Department of the Interior / National Park Service

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management are as follows: (1) imposition of daily launch limits, (2) specific launch dates for commercial users, (3) reduction in maximum boating group size from 50 to 25, (4) increase in the number of river campgrounds along with a decrease in permitted site capacities, (5) change to a lottery system for selecting applicants for regular season boating, (6) a differentiation of day and off-season use from regular season use--with simplified means of securing a permit for the former, and (7) an increase in permitted user-days for noncommercial boaters.

Two categories of river trips are run on the Green, one of these being the commercially-outfitted trip on which professional boatmen take families or groups down the river. This category accommodated about 70 percent of all trip participants in 1976. Commercial boater-user-day allotments have been made to 11 rafting concessioners. The major commercial river users are Don Hatch River Expeditions, Inc., Adventure Bound, Inc., Colorado Outward Bound School, Adrift Adventures of Dinosaur, Inc., and Holiday River Expeditions, Inc. The other trip category is noncommercial use, consisting primarily of self-guided trips by the general public. The new river management plan also reserves an allotment of use for "special populations." The current allocation of launches is approximately 50 percent commercial and 50 percent noncommercial, although actual use is nearer 60 percent commercial, 40 percent noncommercial.

Table III-5 shows the combined river use for the Green and Yampa Rivers from 1967 through 1979 (separate use figures for the two rivers are not available).

River running use mostly involves overnight camping at streamside campgrounds along the Green and Yampa. This use has grown significantly from a total of 6,202 camper nights in 1967 to 21,446 in 1975. Today, campground use is regulated as part of the boating

Table III-5
Boater Use of the Green and Yampa Rivers (Combined),
Dinosaur National Monument

Year	<u>Boaters</u>			<u>Boater-user-days</u> ¹		
	Commercial	Noncommercial ²	TOTAL	Commercial	Noncommercial ²	TOTAL
1967	1,168	1,325	2,493			
1968	1,891	1,864	3,755			
1969	3,192	2,548	5,740			
1970	7,699	2,063	9,762			27,438
1971	10,761	3,384	14,145	26,264	9,753	36,017
1972	12,829	4,330	17,159	29,324	11,318	40,642
1973	12,153	3,586	16,739	28,816	12,993	41,809
1974	9,219	3,655	12,874	22,244	11,847	34,091
1975	10,570	3,333	13,710	24,184	10,872	35,156
1976	10,570	3,010	13,580	26,673	10,080	36,753
1977	9,201	3,913	13,114	23,056	13,666	36,727
1978	11,026	3,533	14,559	29,605	13,325	42,930
1979	8,692	4,313	12,995	23,744	15,951	39,695

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¹Boater-user-day figures include commercial crew members and persons participating in research and National Park Service trips, which are not counted against commercial or noncommercial allocations.

²Includes members of the public who conduct their own trips ("Private") and outdoor experimental education schools. From 1972 to 1977 some of these schools, like commercial outfitters, had guaranteed user-day allotments, but the River Management Plan allows these groups to compete for noncommercial user-days.

Source: NPS-Dinosaur National Monument River Management Plan (1979) and personal interviews with monument staff.



Upper Disaster Falls. The rapids in Lodore Canyon, before the closing of Flaming Gorge Dam, were among the most formidable in the west. No longer large, they are still challenging. On his pioneering run in 1869, Powell's men lost a boat and three months provisions here. Earl Perry



Hell's Half Mile. Though normally quite clear, the Green River in Lodore sometimes carries flashflood runoff from upstream tributaries. This photo, taken June 12, 1965, shows runoff from the great storm of 2 days before, which created Warm Springs Rapid on the Yampa in segment D. Flow about 500 CFS ($142 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$).

Table III-6

**Designated Campgrounds, Green River Corridor,
Dinosaur National Monument
Colorado and Utah**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location (river mile)</u>	<u>Access</u>	<u>Sites</u>	<u>Facilities</u>
Lodore	243.7	car/boat	17	Tables, fireplaces, toilets, water, trailer sites, concrete boat ramp, ranger station, nature trail
Wade and Curtis	241.0	boat	1	Table, fireplaces, pit toilet
Pot Creek	235.3	boat	2	Tables, fireplaces, pit toilets
Triplet Falls	232.4	boat	1	Table, fireplace, pit toilet
Rippling Brook	230.5	boat	2	Tables, fireplaces, pit toilets
Wild Mountain	229.5	boat	1	Fireplace, pit toilet
Limestone	228.3	boat	1	Fireplace, pit toilet
Echo Park	225.0	car/boat	14	Tables, fireplaces, water, pit toilets, boat ramp, ranger station
State Line	219.2	boat	1	Fireplace, pit toilet
Jones Hole	218.6	boat	4	Tables, fireplaces, pit toilets, ranger station
Compromise	217.7	boat	1	Fireplace, pit toilet
The Cove	214.2	boat	1	Fireplace, pit toilet
Island Park	212.0	boat	1	Fireplace, pit toilet
Rainbow Park	207.8	car	4	Tables, fireplaces, pit toilets, boat ramp
Split Mountain	199.5	car/boat	35	Tables, fireplaces, toilets, water, trailer sites, concrete boat ramp, nature trail, amphitheater, firewood

permit procedure to minimize crowding and human impact (such as stripped firewood and accumulations of campfire ash, litter, sanitary wastes). Table III-6 lists the various river campgrounds on this segment.

Other recreational use in the Green River corridor in the monument is sharply limited. Fishing in Lodore Canyon is fair to good for trout; below Echo Park it is limited mostly to catfish. The best trout fishing is on Jones Hole Creek, a tributary in the Whirlpool Canyon area. Most hiking is done in conjunction with river trips and up various side canyons where primitive trails have been worn. Relatively little extended hiking is done; lack of water away from the river is a limiting factor.

Recreational impact caused by large numbers of people at confined river bench sites is an ongoing problem. Since the construction of Flaming Gorge Dam little driftwood is available for campfires above Echo Park (it is now caught by the dam), and some areas have been badly stripped of firewood. A strict "carry-in, carry-out" policy is in force for all noncombustible wastes. Sanitary waste disposal requires steady monitoring. Dam-caused low flow levels in Lodore Canyon (especially below 1,200 cfs) can sometimes cause acute problems in getting through rocky, shallow rapids, particularly since most use is in 27- or 33-foot pontoon rafts. Normally the high flows tend to over-ride the lows, moderating the problem, but prolonged low flows can cause difficulties that are compounded by the steepness of the river and the number of recreationists.

Historic and Archeologic Resources

Early-period archaeological finds show the monument was an interface among three major cultural areas: the Great Basin, the

Plains, and the Southwest. Later finds reveal the consolidation of the Fremont Culture between A.D. 400 and 700 in the Dinosaur National Monument area. The Fremont people were largely sedentary, with a subsistence pattern of hunting, gathering, and simple horticulture. Among their most striking remains are pictographs, petroglyphs, and some pottery. In more recent times, Ute and Shoshone Indians moved in and out of the monument area; neither tribe occupied this country on a continuous basis, however.

No sites within the Green River corridor of segment C are currently on the National Register of Historic Places, but the following properties which lie partly outside the corridor, have been nominated:

Pool Creek Ranch Historic District. The cave occupied by the hermit, Pat Lynch, and buildings form the old Jack Chew (Pool Creek) Ranch.

Zenobia Basin. Log cabins, vintage 1930, pertaining to historic ranching in this area.

Jones Creek-Ely Creek. Outstanding archeologic sites, most of them of the Fremont Culture.

Cub Creek Historic District. Excellent archeologic sites, one early-1900s log cabin in poor condition.

Ruple Ranch District. Evidence of historic ranching operations that began in Island Park in 1883. The ranch house and outbuildings burned in 1972.

SEGMENT D - YAMPA RIVER CANYONS

Physiography and Geology

All but the first 2 miles (3.2 km) of the 47-mile (75.7 km) length of the Yampa River in Dinosaur National Monument lie in deep, extended canyons cut through Blue Mountain, the easternmost spur of the Uinta Range. Except for the Jurassic, Triassic, and Permian rocks exposed along its first 2 miles (3.2 km), a pair of Pennsylvanian formations line this segment. Although the variety of rocks in the Green River corridor is much greater, the down-cutting of the Yampa has created a narrow, twisting canyon that is unique in the region.

The Yampa River enters the monument at the west end of Lily Park, an area now known as Deerlodge Park. The relief is level with low, rolling hills back from the river. Four Jurassic and Triassic sandstone strata--the Dakota, Morrison, Entrada, and Navajo--are visible along with the Curtis, Chinle, Moenkopi, and Permian Park City formations. The dominant rock type is Quaternary alluvium which forms the broad river terrace.

Three miles (4.8 km) west of the Dinosaur National Monument boundary, the river slips abruptly into Yampa Canyon. The canyon was cut during the intermittent Uinta uplift which began about 65 million years ago in early Tertiary times. For its first 18 miles (29 km), the Yampa flows through the Pennsylvanian Morgan Formation, a mix of interbedded sandstones and limestones laid down during a long period of fluctuating shorelines. For much of this sub-segment, the canyon walls are sloping and irregular with many sheer cliffs topped by flat ledges. From river to inner rim, the height tops out at nearly 2,100 feet (640 m); the height of the outer canyon is as much as 3,400 feet (1,040 m). Color is varied; grays, tans, browns, reds, and maroons are present. Talus slopes slant from the bases of cliffs down to the river.

ECHO PARK
CAMPGROUND, RANGER STATION,
AND BOAT RAMP

BOX ELDER
RIVER CAMPGROUND

WARM SPRINGS RAPIDS
RIVER CAMPGROUND

BIG JOE RAPIDS
RIVER CAMPGROUND

LITTLE JOE RAPID

TEPEE
RAPIDS

TEPEE HOLE
RIVER CAMPGROUND

ANDERSON HOLE
RIVER CAMPGROUND

KATY'S NIPPLE

CLEOPATRA'S
COUCH

MANTLE
CAVE

MANTLE
RANCH

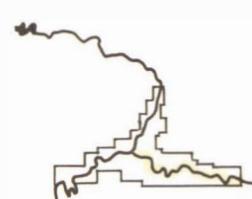
MATHERS HOLE
RIVER CAMPGROUND

HARDING HOLE
RIVER CAMPGROUND

CONFLUENCE WITH
GREEN RIVER

LEGEND

- RECREATION SITE
- DEVELOPED ROAD
- - - SEASONAL ROAD
- DINOSAUR NATIONAL MONUMENT
- PRIVATE LAND
- SUGGESTED WILD AND SCENIC
RIVER BOUNDARY LOCATION



SEGMENT D YAMPA RIVER CORRIDOR

GREEN/YAMPA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DSC | MAR 79



The first 20 miles (32 km) of the Yampa wind through a canyon cut in Pennsylvania and Mississippian rocks. The middle and lower sections of Tepee Rapid, which at high water is almost 0.5 miles (0.8 km) long, are shown. Flow about 18,000 CFS ($510 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$).

Just below Big Joe Rapids (mile 23.8), the face of Yampa Canyon abruptly changes as the river flows from the Morgan Formation to the overlying Weber sandstone. Color, bedding, and lithology change, as do canyon relief and the river course. The coloration of the canyon is a uniform bright tan darkly streaked in places by "desert varnish," a thin coat of manganese oxide deposited by water draining, then evaporating, on the cliff faces. Walls are massive, smooth, and often sheer with only narrow, banded ledges breaking the vertical rise. Some rise as much as 1,500 feet (460 m) directly up from the river, even overhanging it, with no intervening shore or talus slope. At several points, large, arching caves are formed in the sandstone, and at others, exemplary cross-bedding is visible.

Two other noteworthy geologic features are seen on this segment:

Meander migration scars - these are scarps along the north side of Yampa Canyon where it is cut through the Morgan Formation. They mark the river course at earlier stages as the Yampa slowly deepened its canyon and appear today as a succession of terraces on the higher walls and slopes. Meander migration scars also appear in the lower canyon at Warm Springs Draw (mile 4.1) where the Morgan Formation is again briefly exposed.

Warm Springs Rapid - this is the spectacular aftermath of a flash flood on the night of June 10, 1965. It contrasts sharply with other evidence of slow erosion elsewhere on this segment. Formerly, Warm Springs was a minor rapid. During the flash flood, a mass of rock debris was hurled down Warm Springs Draw in a few violent hours of erosion. Warm Springs Rapid is now the most dangerous rapid in Dinosaur National Monument.

Minerals

Although occurrences of zinc, copper, iron, and other minerals are found in or near Dinosaur National Monument and along the Yampa River, these deposits are not considered economical to mine under present conditions because of their low grade, small size, or inaccessibility. There may be some potential for mineral development in the monument, but the area has long been closed to mineral exploration and removal. No claims were filed in Dinosaur National Monument pursuant to P.L. 94-429, which requires that claims not filed by September 28, 1977, would automatically be invalidated.

Of the oil fields scattered across the southern portion of Moffat County, the Elk Springs field, located about 8 miles (13 km) southeast of the eastern end of the monument, is the closest one in production.

The potential for petroleum production from sedimentary formations exposed in or near the Yampa canyon is minimal. The potential from unexposed lower sediments, such as the Mississippian limestones, remains unproven at this time.

Soils

The soils are very similar to the soils of segment C; the most common are shallow, rocky, and sloping to steep. For the most part, the same soil types that exist in the Green River canyons or on the slopes above the canyons are present in and above the canyons of the Yampa; however, Ustollic Haplargids are the most common soils in the lower Yampa and in the Yampa-Green confluence area (see the soils map in chapter III, segment A).

Vegetation

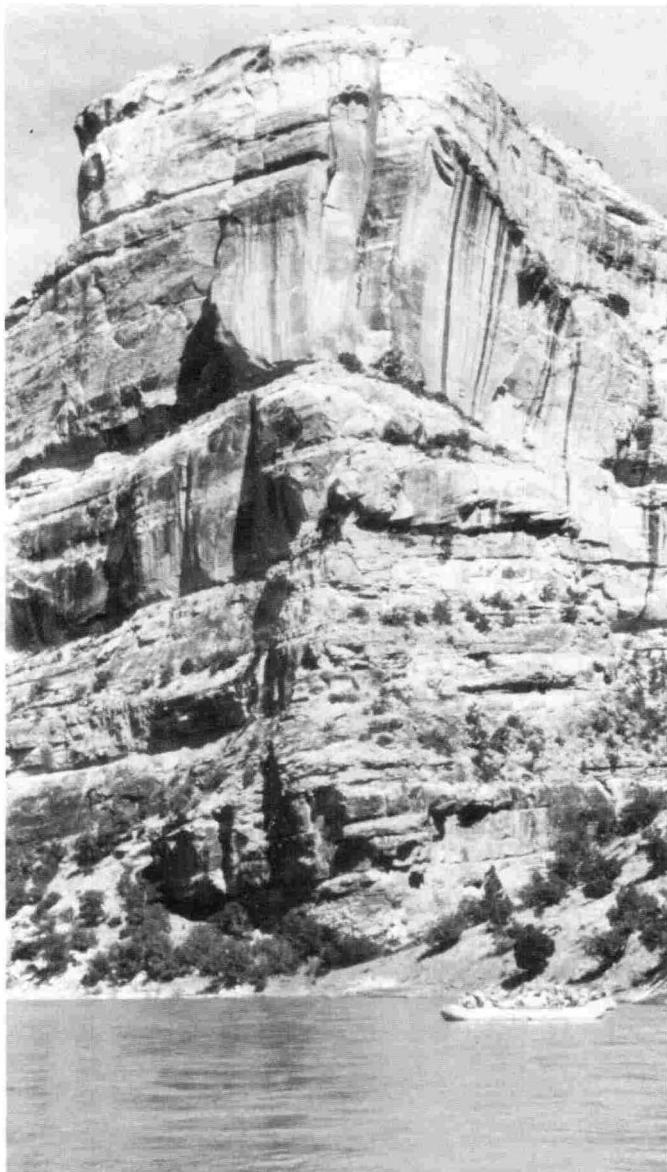
In general, plant life is similar to that of Whirlpool and Split Mountain Canyons and probably somewhat more diverse than that found in Lodore Canyon (all in segment C). In particular, the Douglas-fir is less frequent, though at two points (miles 14.7 and 5.3) it grows at an unusually low elevation (5,100 feet or 1,555 m) for this latitude. Otherwise, vegetation is typical. Dominant trees along the river are cottonwood (especially at Deerlodge Park), river birch, and box elder. Outstanding groves of box elder grow at Harding Hole. The sheer, smooth walls of Weber Sandstone above the river are all but devoid of vegetation, and the more gradual slopes of the Morgan Formation are dominated by Utah juniper and, to a lesser extent, pinon pine.

A checklist of common species lists the following at Castle Park (mile 12.2): box elder, water birch, Utah juniper, pinon pine, skunkbush sumac, big sagebrush, red osier dogwood, green ephedra, and serviceberry.

Wildlife and Fish

Wildlife. Populations are similar to those along the Green with the exception of bighorn sheep, which are generally absent. Mule deer, the most common large mammal, are often seen on terraces and benches along the river. Other mammals include beaver, muskrat, fox, coyote, mountain lion, badger, and bobcat.

Bird life is as varied as it is along the canyons of the Green River. Canada geese are common nesters. The river's natural flow also attracts other waterfowl, including pintails, American goldeneyes, and baldpates. The most common nesting duck is the mallard.



The towers and ledges of Weber Sandstone provide nesting habitat for raptors in the Yampa Canyon. Don Bock

Ledges in the Morgan Formation and nooks and crevices in the Weber Sandstone are especially congenial for raptors. Most commonly seen is the turkey vulture; it is not unusual to see a dozen or more of these dark birds sitting in a row high on a cliff. Other raptors that may be seen include eagles, peregrine falcons, prairie falcons, kestrels, and several hawks, including the redtail, rough-legged, Coopers, and sharp-shinned.

The groves of cottonwood and box elder on the river terraces are rich habitat for many songbirds including ash-throated flycatchers, yellow warblers, rufous-sided towhees and lazuli buntings. Other commonly seen songbirds include mourning doves, meadowlarks, white-throated swifts, and violet-green swallows.

Fish. The lower Yampa River supports about ten native and twenty introduced fish species but is not considered to be a significant sport fishery. However, because of its relatively natural flows and runoff pattern, the Yampa appears vital to the survival of several unique, endemic species. Elsewhere in the region, the combination of altered flow regimes, water depletions, and reservoir development has so greatly altered the historic fishery that two species, the humpback chub and the Colorado River squawfish, have been accorded "endangered" status by the Department of the Interior. Two other species, the bonytail chub and the humpback sucker, have been proposed for listing as endangered and threatened, respectively.

The world's largest minnow, the now "endangered" Colorado River squawfish once grew to over 6 feet (1.8 m) in length and near 80 pounds (36 kg) in weight. Formerly known as the Colorado or white salmon, it supported a commercial fishery near Grand Junction

5. Ellis, Max Mapes, "Fishes of Colorado" (1914), in Studies. Series A. General Studies, vol. II, #1. University of Colorado, Boulder, CO (1902 et seq.)

until about 1910.⁵ Squawfish reproduction has declined in the upper Green River basin since the late 1960s. The cold waters and altered flows of the Green River above its confluence with the Yampa no longer support squawfish, but the presence of adults was recorded in the Yampa during 1968-1971 and from 1974 through at least 1978.

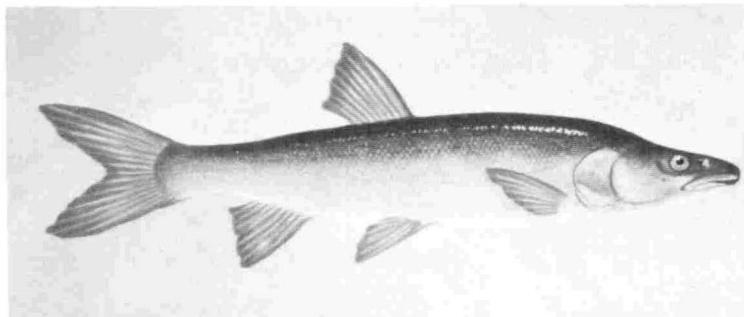
The humpback chub, also classed as "endangered" by the USDI, was not discovered until 1946; apparently, it has never been abundant. In 1968-1971, only a few were captured in the monument. In 1975 and 1976, humpback chubs were found at three locations on the Yampa River; just above Echo Park, 2 miles (3.2 km) above Castle Park, and above the Yampa canyon in Deerlodge Park.

Once abundant, the bonytail chub has declined drastically since the closing of Flaming Gorge Dam. By 1968-1971, only a few were found, and none were collected in the monument from 1974-1976. In 1975, the Desert Fishes Council recommended that this fish be classified "endangered"; formal action has yet to be taken.

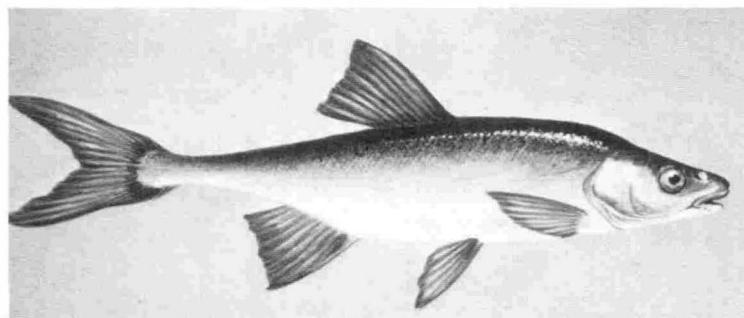
The humpback (also known as razorback) sucker has now vanished from large areas of the Colorado River Basin. Since 1970, investigators have considered it rare, and no juvenile fish have been reported in recent years. The humpback sucker has commenced to hybridize with the flannelmouth sucker and also the introduced Utah sucker. In 1975, the Desert Fishes Council recommended that the humpback sucker be placed on the Interior Department's "threatened" list.

While these endemic species have been declining, new exotics have been turning up. Among the species recently collected from the Yampa River in the monument for the first time are the plains killifish (July 1975), the Utah chub (April 1976), and the sand shiner.

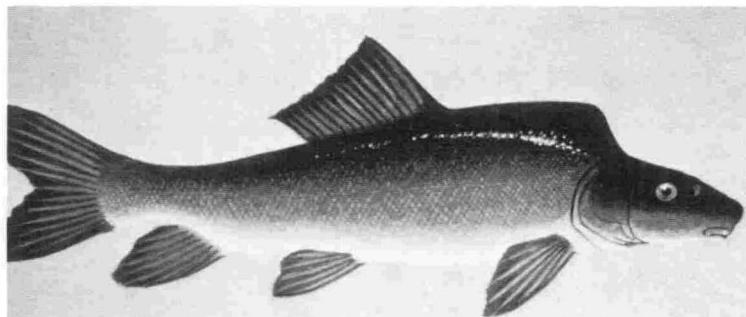
Endangered and Threatened Fish of the Colorado River Study Area



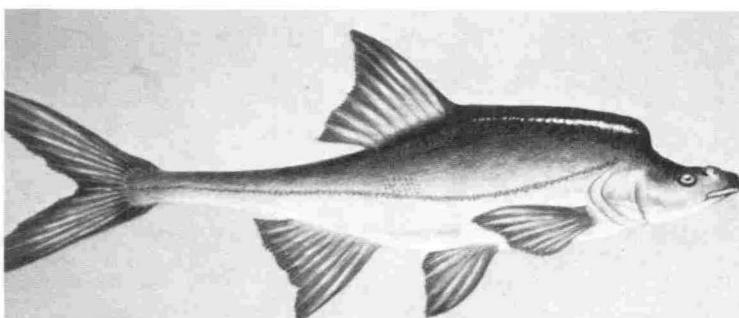
Colorado Squawfish (*Ptychocheilus lucius*). These giant minnows may reach 6 feet and 80 pounds (36 kg). Colorado Division of Wildlife



Bonytail Chub (*Gila elegans*). Another large minnow, which may attain lengths of 18 inches (0.5 m). Colorado Division of Wildlife



Humpback (Razorback) Sucker (*Xyrauchen texanus*). The knife-like dorsal hump helps stabilize the fish in the rapid currents of high water. May grow to 16 pounds (7.3 kg). Colorado Division of Wildlife



Humpback Chub (*Gila cypha*). This remarkably-shaped large minnow may grow to 18 inches (0.5 m). Colorado Division of Wildlife

Water Quality

Except for some limited testing by Dow Chemical Corporation, no water quality testing has been done on the Yampa River in Dinosaur National Monument. However, no point sources of pollution exist within the monument boundaries. Upriver, inadequately treated municipal wastewater is a frequent concern. In 1975, the Colorado Water Quality Control Commission reported that wastewater treatment plants in the Yampa River Basin were meeting state effluent standards only about 40 percent of the time. The 2 largest plants in the basin, located at Steamboat Springs and Craig, 88 miles and 50 miles (142 and 81 km) upstream from the monument boundary, respectively), are both overloaded.

Nonpoint sources of pollution affecting water quality upstream on the Yampa River are runoff from winter cattle feedlots; irrigation return flows; runoff from Mesozoic and Tertiary shale outcrop areas; and septic tank effluent from small communities along the river, including Yampa, Phippsburg, Milner, and Maybell.

At present, septic tank effluent does not appear to affect the Yampa River seriously. Silt and salts from shale areas enter the river primarily after summer thunderstorms. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, irrigation returns add over 100 tons (90 metric tons) per day of salt to the Yampa drainage, or 400 to 600 pounds (180 to 270 kg) per year per acre. Manure accumulations from feedlots wash into the Yampa primarily in late April and early May with the spring runoff; these accumulations are high in nitrates, phosphates, and bacteria. The high spring stream flow minimizes their impact.

The effects of these factors on the Yampa River study segment have been measured at the Colorado Water Pollution Control Commission's Water Quality Station #40 located at the eastern

Dinosaur National Monument boundary. A discussion of specific water quality parameters follows:

Aesthetic considerations. These are specified in EPA's Water Quality Criteria, 1972. The Yampa, in general, meets these standards for esthetics. It is free from matter that settles to form objectionable deposits; floating debris, oil, or scum; substances producing objectionable color, odor, taste, or turbidity; and substances or conditions producing undesirable aquatic life.

Microbiological considerations. These are also discussed in Water Quality Criteria, 1972; they deal with pathogenic bacteria which might pose health hazards. Fecal coliform is the primary index. Between March 1968 and April 1976, the Colorado Water Quality Control Division made 50 tests on the Yampa (above the monument); results showed the river to be generally within the state's standards for fecal coliform. About 30 percent of these tests showed violations of the state's maximum limits for fecal coliform. Most of the violations were caused by high amounts of runoff from feedlots during the spring. A second index of microbiological quality is dissolved oxygen. At no point did concentrations drop below specified levels.

Chemical considerations. The Yampa River at Station #40 showed traces of only one potentially harmful chemical--selenium; the concentration of this naturally-occurring substance was far below the permitted level. State and federal radiation standards were also met.

Temperature. The Water Quality Criteria, 1972, stipulate that recreational waters should not appreciably increase or decrease deep body temperatures of swimmers or bathers. Colorado standards state that water temperatures should follow natural daily and seasonal fluctuations, with no abrupt changes.

Temperatures of the Yampa River follow a typical, natural cycle both seasonally and daily. In the boating season, the river is usually too cold for prolonged body contact.

pH. The federal standard specifies a pH between 6.5 and 8.3 to minimize eye irritation; Colorado standards for primary contact are between 6.5 and 8.5. According to 48 samples taken between 1968 and 1976, pH ranged from 7.6 to 9.0, with an average of 8.45. Approximately 31 percent of the measurements exceeded Colorado's maximum levels for alkalinity of primary contact waters. The high alkalinity appears to result from the river's natural geology which yields a predominantly calcium bicarbonate type water.

Turbidity. According to Water Quality Criteria, 1972, waters used for swimming should be clear enough for swimmers to locate submerged hazards easily. According to the Colorado Department of Health, nonnatural substances should not increase turbidity by more than 10 Jackson Turbidity Units.

Almost all turbidity in the Yampa River is from natural sediments eroded into the stream from dry areas with sparse vegetation. Agricultural activity (primarily irrigated farming) also increases siltation. Turbidity is greatest during high water in the spring and early summer and is too high for swimmers to see well; however, low temperatures and rapid current dissuade swimmers.

Water Flow

The Yampa River is a relatively free-flowing stream since there are no dams on the main stem; its flow mostly follows the natural seasonal pattern. Low winter flows occur from December through February, followed by a sharp increase to a runoff peak in May or June. Thereafter a rapid decline occurs through August with a steady low flow in the fall.

From one year to the next, flows also vary with weather patterns. The high for the Yampa (measured at Maybell, Colorado) was in the spring of 1917 at 17,900 cubic feet per second (507 m³/s). The low was in the winter of 1932 at only 2 cubic feet per second (.06 m³/s). The average high from 1904 to 1959 was 9,937 cfs (281.5 m³/s); the average low was 124.5 cfs (3.5 m³/s). Since the Little Snake River joins the Yampa below this station, but above the monument, actual flows in segment D are about one-third higher than these figures show, except during periods of extreme low flow, when the Little Snake may go dry. Tables II-2 and II-3 in the Regional Description chapter show the flows of the Yampa and Little Snake rivers above segment D.

Access

Access to the Yampa River in Dinosaur National Monument is available at only three points: Deerlodge Park, where there is a paved road to the park, then a gravel road to the boat ramp, campground, and ranger station (mile 46.5); Castle Park/Mantle Ranch, with a dirt road to a private ranch (mile 12.0); and Echo Park, with a gravel road to the boat ramp, ranger station, and car campground (mile 0). There are no foot trails in the corridor.

Land Ownership

Within the Yampa River corridor, only the Mantle Ranch (mile 12.0) is in private ownership. A working ranch operation of 160 acres (65 ha), its improvements and activities include an orchard, irrigated pasture lands, livestock grazing and corrals, and residences.

TABLE III-7
Land Ownership, Segment D

	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>Percent</u>
National Park Service	14,880	6,020	99
Private	<u>160</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	15,040	6,080	100

Land Use

About 5,000 acres (2,000 ha) of the Yampa River corridor are under National Park Service grazing permit, including parts of five grazing allotments: Mantle, Iron Mine, Campbell, Richardson, and Sawmill Canyon. However, only small segments of these allotments are within the river corridor, and grazing in the inner canyon (the river corridor) is minimal. Except for the Mantle, grazing on these allotments will terminate in 1985.

Both cattle and sheep are grazed. Under present management plans, nearly all the use is for winter range (from November 15 to March 1; occasionally later on three allotments). Since the primary recreational season for boating takes place from late spring to mid summer, direct conflict is not an issue.

Approximately 99 percent of the Yampa River corridor will be wilderness if the proposed wilderness designation for Dinosaur National Monument is authorized.

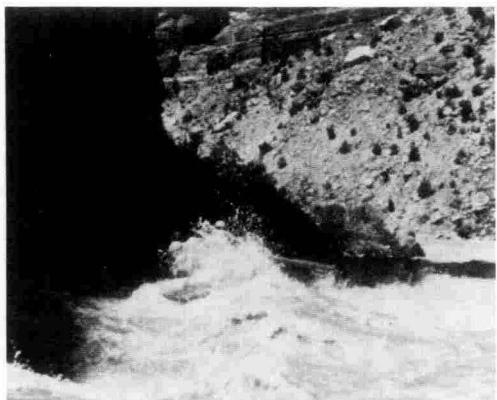
Recreation

The prime recreational use is whitewater boating, with about 90 percent in inflatable rubber rafts, and the rest in kayaks. As on the Green, the number and difficulty of rapids on the Yampa segment varies with the flow in the river. A few of the rafting parties put in at Deerlodge Park and take out at Echo Park, but most continue on along the Green River through Whirlpool and Split Mountain Canyons. Notable whitewater areas on the Yampa study segment include Tepee Rapids, Little Joe Rapids, Big Joe Rapids, and Warm Spring Rapids, rated at Class III-IV. The Yampa's rapids require little maneuvering. However, the large waves and undammed runoff produce an exhilarating experience now relatively rare in the United States. The Schreyer study⁶ found a strong correlation between boater satisfaction and high water stages.

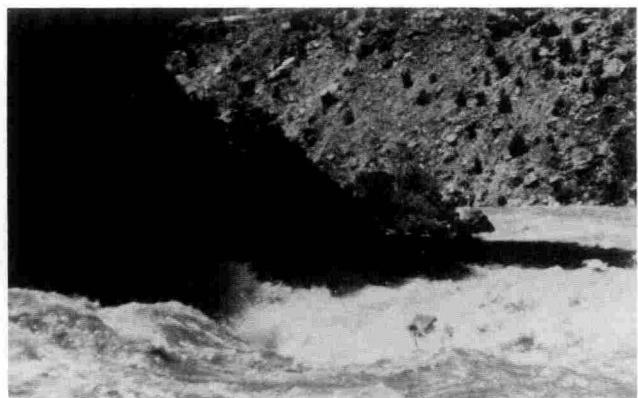
Along with challenging whitewater are other recreational attributes. Many consider the Serpentine Bends beneath the massive walls of Weber sandstone (mile 20 to mile 4.2) to be one of the most scenic stretches of river in the West. Hiking in the side canyons at Harding Hole is also popular, as is the exploration of caves and archeologic sites. Mantle Cave (mile 11.2) was the site of major Fremont culture occupations and is now posted with interpretive signs.

In 1976, approximately 45 to 50 percent of all river use in the monument originated on the Yampa, with peak use in June when 59 percent of the trips were run. May is the only other month when the Yampa receives substantial use (25.3 percent); a small percentage of trips also put in during April and July. Before and

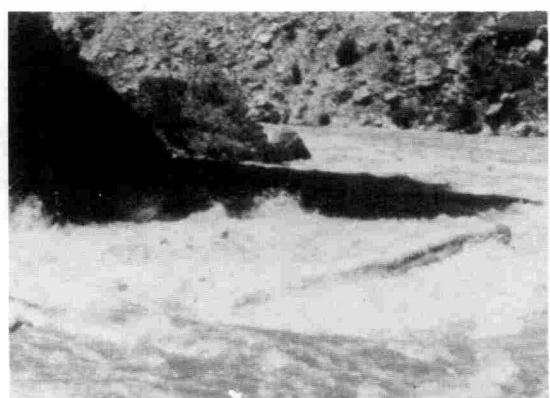
6. Schreyer et al. The Dinosaur National Monument Whitewater River Recreation Study. Utah State University, Logan (1976.)



Study team members about to capsize . . .



capsizing . . .



capsized.

Warm Springs Rapid, created by a spectacular flashflood on an ephemeral tributary in June of 1965 and complicated by rock fall from the 1,800-foot (550-m) cliff that overlooks it, is the monument's roughest. NPS

TABLE III-8

Designated Campgrounds, Yampa River Corridor, Dinosaur National Monument, Colorado

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location (river mile)</u>	<u>Access</u>	<u>Sites</u>	<u>Facilities</u>
Deerlodge	46.5	car, boat	---	Tables, fireplaces, pit toilets, boat ramp, ranger station
Anderson Hole	41.8	boat	2	Tables, fireplaces, pit toilets
Tepee Hole	36.4	boat	1	Table, fireplace, pit toilet
Big Joe	23.8	boat	1	Fireplace, pit toilet
Harding Hole	20.1	boat	4	Tables, fireplaces, pit toilets
Mathers Hole	17.6	boat	1	Firewood, pit toilet
Warm Springs Draw	4.2	boat	1	Table, fireplace, pit toilets
Box Elder	2.1	boat	3	Tables, fireplaces, pit toilets

after spring runoff, water in the Yampa River is insufficient for rafting. This is a notable contrast with the Green River, as the regulated releases from the Flaming Gorge Dam enable river-running through the entire summer and into the fall. As a general rule, rafting on the Yampa River ceases when flow drops below 3,000 to 5,000 cfs (84 to 140 m³/s).

A mix of commercial and noncommercial trips is also run on the Yampa River. As on the Green, overnight camping is almost exclusively associated with river running. Table III-8 lists the various campgrounds in the Yampa River corridor.

Historic and Archeologic Resources

The aboriginal history of the Yampa River corridor is generally similar to that of the Green in the monument and also the Browns Park area. However, the unique geology of the lower segment, where the Weber sandstone walls prevail, has been conducive to especially rich archeological deposits and excellent preservation. In particular, the large arching caves common in this formation were favored shelter for early Americans as far back as 2,500 B.C. Because these caves are protected from rain and are in an arid area as well, ordinarily perishable items have been preserved intact, especially objects of feather, plant fiber, wood, and leather.

Between 1939 and 1949, the University of Colorado excavated three caves in the Castle Park area and uncovered relics dating from about 1,500 B.C. to A.D. 800, a 2,300-year span. From the earliest to most recent occupation, these sites are as follows:

Hell's Midden. This was a stratified deposit under a rock ledge. Trenched to 15 feet (4.6 m), it showed discontinuous occupation

from about 1,500 B.C. to the Fremont period of 400 to 700 A.D. The lower, older layers yielded artifacts from a hunting and gathering culture--people who ate deer, bighorn sheep, bison, fox, beaver, prairie dog, marmot, woodrat, rabbit, and fish. Implements including projectiles, scrapers, and awls were also found.

Mantle Cave. A large cave, 130 by 350 feet (107 by 40 m), this site consisted of 6 caches of Fremont culture artifacts dating between 400 A.D. and 700 A.D. One cache held a buckskin pouch containing a headdress of 350 flicker feathers and three ermine skins. Another cache yielded a headdress of tanned deer scalp with erect ears still attached.

Marigold Cave. This site contained remains from the final phase of Fremont culture, to about 800 A.D. Stone, bone, clay, and vegetable fiber artifacts were found, including some small clay bird figurines. Also found were a cook pit, slab-lined storage pits, and primitive shelters. The latter consisted of horizontal beams between two posts, and a reed-and-cedar bark roof held in place by thin sandstone slabs.

Historic artifacts from Ute and Shoshone sources have also been found in the Yampa River corridor. Based on these discoveries, plus a 1963-1964 University of Colorado survey of the entire monument, it appears that the prospects for finding more significant archaeological resources along the Yampa River are extremely good.

No sites in the Yampa River corridor are currently on the National Register of Historic Places. A Castle Park Historic District has been proposed because of the archaeologic and historic ranching sites in the area.

CHAPTER IV

WILD AND SCENIC RIVER ELIGIBILITY AND CLASSIFICATION

ELIGIBILITY FOR NATIONAL WILD AND SCENIC RIVER DESIGNATION

Eligibility determinations were based on the criteria in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (P. L. 90-542) and the joint Interior/Agriculture "Guidelines for Evaluating Wild, Scenic and Recreational River Areas Proposed for Inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System Under Section 2, P. L. 90-542." These documents describe the general characteristics of rivers to be included in the System and outline the approach to be used in the evaluation process.

The Act states that, to be eligible for inclusion in the System, the river or segment of river must possess one or more outstandingly remarkable values,¹ and it must be free-flowing. The federal Guidelines additionally require that the segment or segments must be of length sufficient to provide a meaningful experience; there should be sufficient volume of water during the recreation season to permit full enjoyment of water-related outdoor recreation activities; and the river should have high quality water or be susceptible to restoration to that condition. Table IV-1, "Summary of Eligibility

1. The Act and "Guidelines" do not define "outstandingly remarkable," but general concepts have evolved in this and other wild and scenic river studies which approximate a definition of the term. Outstandingly remarkable values are usually those which are of national importance and which are unique or very rare when compared with values in similar areas.

Table IV-1
Summary of Eligibility Criteria, Green and Yampa Rivers

Eligibility Criteria	RIVER SEGMENTS			
	A Flaming Gorge Dam to Indian Crossing Boat Ramp	B Indian Crossing Boat Ramp to Gates of Lodore in Dinosaur NM	C Gates of Lodore to Southern Boundary of Dinosaur NM	D Yampa River Within Dinosaur NM
Free-Flowing Factors				
Impoundments	None	None	None	None
Diversions	None	One	None	None
Pumps & Related River Modifications	None	Seven	One	One
RIVER FREE-FLOWING?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Volume of Water	Sufficient for recreational use	Sufficient for recreational use	Sufficient for recreational use	Sufficient for recreational use
Length	15 Miles (24.6 km)	32 Miles (51.0 km)	44 Miles (70.8 km)	47 Miles (75.7 km)
Water Quality Factors				
Meets Primary and Secondary Contact Recreation Criteria	Yes ²	Yes ²	Yes ²	No ³
Primary Contact Criteria Exceeded Because of Natural Conditions				Yes
Outstandingly Remarkable Values				
Scenic	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Recreation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Geologic	No	No	Yes	Yes
Fish and Wildlife	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cultural (historic, archeologic, and architectural)	No	Yes	No	Yes
ELIGIBLE FOR INCLUSION IN NATIONAL SYSTEM?	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible

1. Depending on the location, these modifications consist of either protective rip-rap work, installation of pump stands, channel deepening, or fence in river.

2. Penstock modifications allow releases of water varying seasonally in temperature from 40° to 55°F (4-13C); winter releases thus do not meet primary contact standards due to low temperature.

3. Fails to meet primary contact criteria because of both seasonal low water temperature and turbidity.

Factors," presents criteria from the Act and "Guidelines." The table shows the degree to which these criteria were met in making the determination that all four segments of the Green and Yampa are eligible for designation.

SUMMARY OF OUTSTANDING VALUES BY RIVER SEGMENT

Segment A, Red Canyon of the Green River

Scenic Values. The Red Canyon segment of the Green presents striking, abrupt contrasts--sometimes flowing through a deep, narrow gorge, sometimes between low, rolling hills, and sometimes across an almost flat-bottomed valley. Most of the segment winds placidly through pine and shrub-covered canyons. In places, reddish rock walls rise or stairstep away from the river to heights of up to 800 feet (250 m). Maximum canyon depth is 1,800 feet (550 m). The river is an appealing clear green in color; deep holes and mostly small rapids or sparkling riffles add to the highly relaxing colorful scenery. Based on the above, the study team found the scenic values of this reach "outstandingly remarkable."

Recreation Values. The river corridor provides enjoyable, relaxing, and nonstrenuous opportunities for rafting, canoeing, hiking, fishing, camping, picnicking, and nature study. These activities are enhanced by both outstanding scenery and fish and wildlife values. The recreational values of the river corridor are outstanding and unique.

Fish and Wildlife Values. Although it is the values associated with the fish and fish habitat that have been determined to be "outstandingly remarkable" in this segment, the corridor also contains a diversity of wildlife habitats and species. This segment

is rated as a blue ribbon trout fishery by the Utah Fish and Game Department. Rainbows up to 5 or 6 pounds (to 2.7 kg) are taken.² Modification of the penstocks in Flaming Gorge Dam allows water to be released from a higher reservoir level, resulting in rises in river water temperatures and oxygen content, which will further improve the fishery.

Segment B, Browns Park - Green River

Recreation Values. Except for 3 miles (4.8 km) of river in the scenic, rock-walled Swallow Canyon, the Green River throughout the length of the 32-mile (51 km) long Browns Park segment flows quietly through a continuous series of oxbows, bends, and meanders. The slow-moving river, and the presence of numerous waterfowl and wildlife species provide good opportunities for fishing, hunting, waterfowl viewing, floating, and camping. The segment provides fine canoeing in an attractive pastoral setting. The study team rated the recreation values of this segment as "outstandingly remarkable."

Fish and Wildlife Values. A large portion of this segment is managed primarily to provide high quality nesting and migration habitat for Canada geese, ducks, and other migratory birds. At times, waterfowl populations are diverse and very high, especially during the spring nesting period and fall migration. Great blue herons and turkey vultures often nest in the same trees. A variety of shore and songbirds is also seen. Other commonly seen wildlife include mule deer and beaver.

2. Larger rainbows are occasionally taken in the tailwaters area, immediately below the dam.

Approximately the upper half of the segment contains prime trout habitat and is a continuation of the blue ribbon trout fishery in segment A. As turbidity increases downstream, the fishery decreases in value. Because of the unique concentrations of wildlife and the seasonally excellent opportunities for wildlife viewing and hunting, the study team rated the fishery and wildlife values of this segment as "outstandingly remarkable."

Cultural Values. Browns Park has a colorful past of Indians, mountainmen, traders, cattlemen, cowboys, and outlaws. Indians, the first residents, valued the park as a sheltered wintertime haven where game and fish were plentiful. From 1826 to 1840, Browns Park was the site for several of the spring rendezvous staged by the fur companies. In 1837, early settlers built Fort Davy Crockett.

A number of historic sites still exist in Browns Park, and add interest to a visit; these include ranch buildings, homesteads--notably Two Bar Ranch, the Jarvie site, bridge and ferry sites, the Lodore School, and the remains of several outlaw cabins. Several sites including an important Indian-White contact site have been nominated for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

Although little archeological information has been extracted, the potential is considerable, and the area is thought to be outstandingly significant for archeological as well as historical values. This conclusion is based on the hundreds of known archeological sites in adjacent areas, the flat topography of bottomland suitable for habitation and horticulture, abundant fish and wildlife, and the opportunities for stratified flood plain archeological sampling.

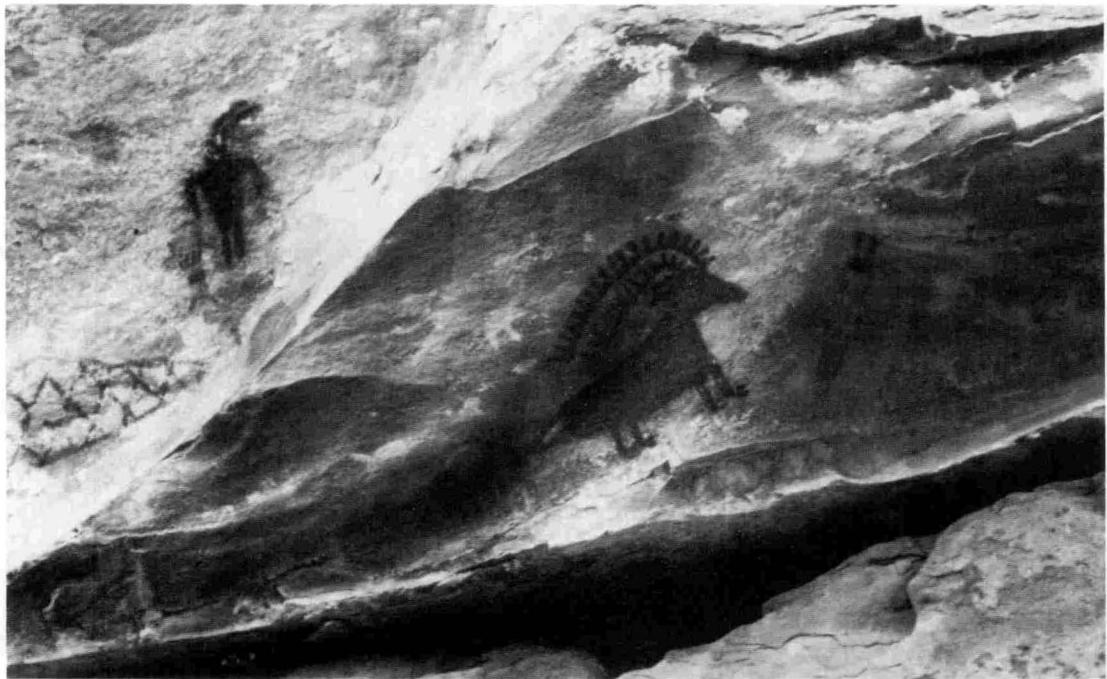
The cultural values of the Browns Park are clearly "outstandingly remarkable."

Segment C, Lodore Through Split Mountain Canyons - Green River

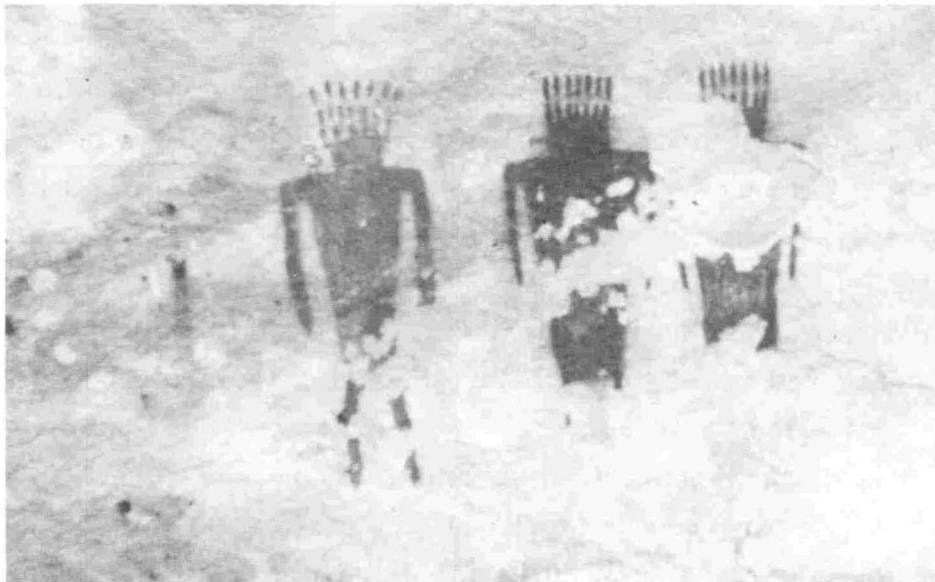
Scenic Values. Starting at Gates of Lodore on the north and continuing past Split Mountain, 44 miles (70.8 km) to the south, the Green River winds and plunges through steep-sided Lodore, Whirlpool, and Split Mountain Canyons. Contrasts are provided between canyons as the river passes the massive Steamboat Rock and through the opened-up terrain at Echo Park and in Island and Rainbow Parks. The magnificent canyons present steep, high walls and a panorama of ever-changing geology and colors. Vistas vary from sheer rock walls to eroded spires high up on the steep canyon slopes. Through Island and Rainbow Parks, the river moves slowly and sluggishly, and the scenery becomes almost pastoral. However, the change presents a respite from the existing canyon scenes above and below.

The scenery is some of the most dramatic and unique in western Colorado and eastern Utah and is truly "outstandingly remarkable."

Recreation Values. The outstanding recreation values of the Green River canyons are enhanced by the scenic, geologic, and fish and wildlife values present. Opportunities exist for 1 to 4 day rafting trips from May through September, with access to a number of National Park Service campsites and side visits to canyons, petroglyph sites, and other points of interest. About 10 major rapids and many riffles attract boaters from all over the United States, to enjoy about 37,000 boater days of use annually. The recreation values easily rated "outstandingly remarkable."



Pictographs are typical of the prehistoric artifacts in segments B and C. Earl Perry



Exfoliation and vandalism have damaged the figures. Earl Perry

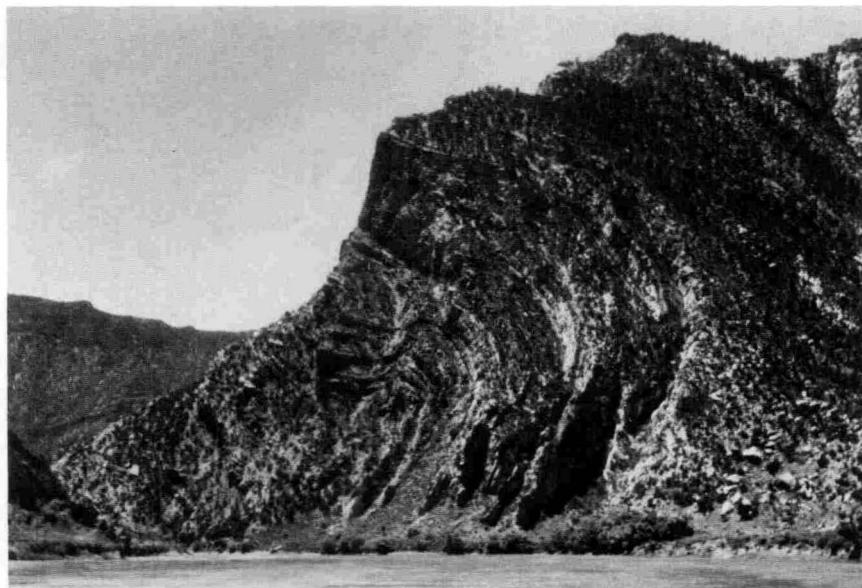
Geologic Values. The uplifting of mountains in this area from ancient sea floors some 60 to 70 million years ago was accompanied by compressional stresses that pushed the bedrock into spectacular folds, or fractured it into faults. The rock was further sculptured and carved by nature to form rugged, steep-walled canyons, representing a cross-section of geologic history.

The heavily spalled and fractured rock of the walls and steep slopes of Lodore Canyon are believed to be the oldest exposed on the entire 730-mile (1175 km) length of the Green. In Whirlpool Canyon, the geology is more diverse than on any comparable section of the entire river. Split Mountain Canyon is unique in that the river has carved a canyon along the axis and through the middle of a high upwarp. The folding and faulting associated with this "breached anticline" are textbook-quality features which readily lend themselves to study and public interpretation. The geology of this segment is clearly "outstandingly remarkable."

Fish and Wildlife Values. From the standpoint of the viewer and photographer, the most prized animal in the segment is the bighorn sheep, which may be seen at almost any time of the year in Lodore Canyon and on rare occasions in Whirlpool Canyon. Even rarer, but still sometimes seen, is the mountain lion. Mule deer and beaver are commonly seen. Birdlife is rich and varied and includes the golden eagle and red-tailed hawk; bald eagles and peregrine falcons are sighted occasionally. In addition, two endangered fish found in the Yampa River, the humpback chub and the Colorado squawfish, are also present in this segment below the Yampa confluence. The presence of these remarkable wildlife and fish species in the river corridor adds significantly to the outstanding scenic and recreation values.



The Mitten Park Fault, shown on the opposite side from photo 2.
The river travels two miles (1.2 km) around Steamboat Rock to
cover the quarter-mile (400 m) between the photo points. HCRS



The river cleaves strata bent by the Island Park Fault at the
entrance to Split Mountain Canyon. HCRS

Folding at the margin of two of the faults along the river reveals the geologic processes that have shaped the area.

Segment D, Yampa River Canyons

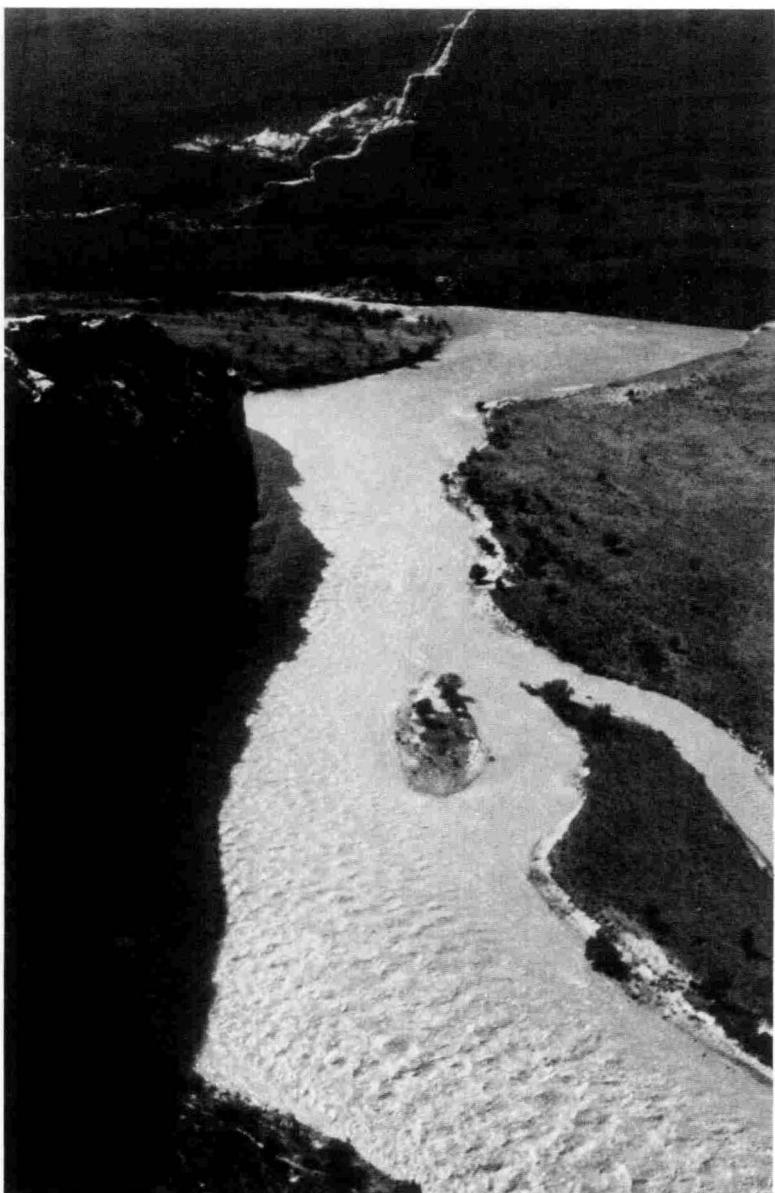
Scenic Values. After the pastoral 1.5 miles (2.4 km) of river in Deerlodge Park, the Yampa penetrates the folded layers at the edge of a fault block and winds through a continuous canyon before meeting the Green at Echo Park. Although the scenic qualities of the Yampa Canyons are not as diverse as those of the Green, they are awesome in form and scale. About halfway down this segment's 47-mile (75.7-km) length, the character of the canyon changes from a rough, irregular appearance with numerous talus slopes to smooth, vertical cliffs and sculpted walls of light tan Weber sandstone that sometimes rise more than 1000 feet (300 m) from the water's edge. In an impressive 7-mile (11-km) canyon stretch below Harding Hole, the river curves and twists beneath massive walls and picturesque spires and domes, covering a mere 1.7 miles (2.7 km) on a direct line. Deeply incised and winding side canyons add to the outstanding scenic values of this segment.

Recreation Values. The recreation values of the Yampa and its canyons are very similar to those of the Green below the Gates of Lodore. However, the Yampa is an undammed river with a high spring runoff followed by vastly reduced flows; as a result, commercial river rafting is usually not feasible after early July. Relatively easy boating on such high flows is rare enough to make Yampa River boating an outstanding, nationally sought after experience. Mantle Cave, with its Indian relics, provides a point of interest in addition to the opportunities and facilities generally available on the Green.

Geologic Values. Although the geologic history of the Yampa River canyons is very similar to that of the Green River canyons, they are not the same in appearance. From Deerlodge Park downstream to Big Joe Rapid, the steep slopes and fossil-bearing ledges of the Morgan Formation predominate. From Big Joe Rapids to Echo Park,



A natural river like the Yampa overtops its banks occasionally. The boat ramp at Lily Park, start of the trip through segment D, is under about a foot (0.3 m) of water in this 1974 photo. Flow about 22,000 CFS ($620 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$).



Meanders entrenched 800 feet (240 m) below the plateau carry the Yampa 7 miles (11 km) to cover 1.7 miles (2.7 km) in a straight line. Earl Perry

smooth vertical cliffs and sculpted walls of light tan Weber sandstone dominate the riverscape. The folds and faults along the Yampa, the long sequence of rock types, and the scenic examples of incised meanders and meander/migration scars induced the study team to find the geologic values of the Yampa "outstandingly remarkable."

Fish and Wildlife Values. Except for an absence of bighorn sheep, which are very rarely seen, the wildlife values are essentially the same as those for segment C of the Green River. In addition, this section of the Yampa contains the two endangered fish species, the humpback chub and the Colorado squawfish. The presence of these fish enhances the "outstandingly remarkable" fish and wildlife values of the Yampa segment.

Cultural Values. The wealth of information from cultural sites along the Yampa, covering occupation from 1500 B.C. to A.D. 800, conditions contributing to preservation of artifacts, plus the extremely good prospects for future finds, contribute to finding these values "outstandingly remarkable."

CLASSIFICATION DETERMINATION

The classification for each segment were also based on criteria in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and the "Guidelines." These documents describe flow, accessibility, shoreline, and water quality conditions appropriate or required for the three classification levels--wild, scenic, and recreational. These criteria are presented in table IV-2.

Following are brief descriptions of the attributes of Yampa and Green River segments that determined their classification.

Segment A, Red Canyon - Green River

Flow. Large sustained flow, controlled by Flaming Gorge Dam. Fluctuates between 800 and 4,600 cfs (22.7 to 130.3 m³/s, generally on a daily basis. River between 75 and 250 feet (23 to 76 m) in width, with an average gradient of about 11 feet per mile (2.1 m per km). Excellent opportunities for whitewater and semiplacid river floating and canoeing.

Accessibility. Limited access. Boat ramps at the Flaming Gorge Dam spillway, Little Hole Campground, and Indian Crossing. No other roads into river corridor except for primitive road to Fire Flat picnic site which cannot be seen from river, and road into south end of Little Hole. Little Hole foot trail parallels left bank of the river between the Spillway boat ramp and Little Hole Campground.

Shoreline. Mostly canyon and narrow valley bottom, with striking and colorful contrasts between reddish rock, large pines and other conifers, and green water of the river. Shoreline mostly primitive and appealing to floaters and hikers. Intrusions (see Visual Intrusions map) limited to Flaming Gorge Dam, a trail footbridge, roads seen briefly at put-in sites, a transmission line, a natural gasline crossing, and Little Hole Campground. When viewed from the river, none seriously take away from overall scenic character of shoreline environment.

Water Quality. Excellent. Normally clean, with much of bottom visible. Meets primary contact recreation criteria, though winter releases have low water temperature. Red Creek in lower part of segment can empty thick, reddish sediments into river during spring runoff and after heavy summer showers.

Classification for Which Segment Qualifies Based on Existing Conditions--SCENIC.

Table IV-2
Summary of Classification Criteria

The following criteria, summarized from the evaluation "Guidelines" were used to determine the classification suitability of the four river segments.

WILD

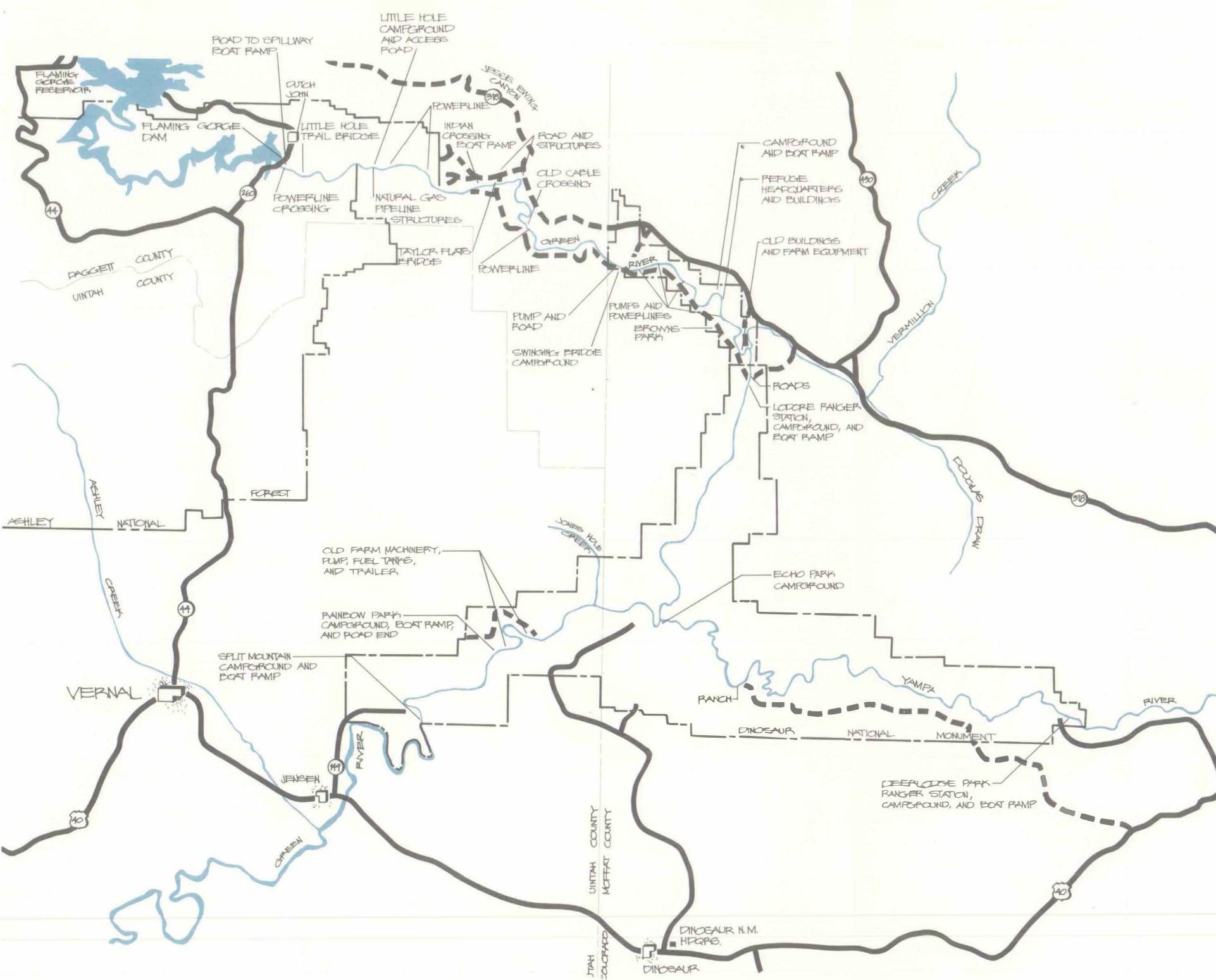
1. Flow - Free Flowing. Low dams, diversion works, or other minor structures which do not inundate the natural riverbank may not bar consideration. Future construction restricted.
2. Accessibility - Generally inaccessible by road. No roads in narrow, incised valley. If broad valley, no road within $\frac{1}{4}$ mile (0.4 km) of riverbank. A few inconspicuous roads to the area may be permissible.
3. Shorelines - Shorelines essentially primitive. Inconspicuous dwellings, limited amount of domestic livestock, and land devoted to production of hay may be permitted. Watershed natural-like in appearance.
4. Water Quality - Water quality meets minimum criteria for primary contact recreation except where such criteria are exceeded by natural background conditions. Also, water must be capable of supporting propagation of aquatic life normally adapted to habitat of the stream.

SCENIC

1. Flow - Same as for wild.
2. Accessibility - Accessible by roads which may occasionally bridge the river area. Short stretches of conspicuous and well-screened roads or railroads paralleling river area may be permitted, but consider type of road use.
3. Shoreline - Shoreline and immediate river environs still have over-all natural character. Small communities limited to short reaches of total area. Agricultural practices which do not adversely affect river area may be permitted. This could include unobtrusive row crops and timber harvest.
4. Water Quality - Water quality should meet minimum criteria for desired types of recreation except where such criteria are exceeded by natural background conditions and esthetics. Also, water must be capable of supporting propagation of aquatic life normally adapted to habitat of the stream or is capable of and is being restored to that quality.

RECREATIONAL

1. Flow - May have undergone some impoundment or diversion in past. Water should not have characteristics of an impoundment for any significant distance. Future construction restricted.
2. Accessibility - Readily accessible, with likelihood of parallel roads or railroads along riverbanks and bridge crossings.
3. Shoreline - Some shoreline development. May include all agricultural uses, small communities, or dispersed or clustered residential.
4. Water Quality - Same as for scenic.



VISUAL INTRUSIONS

GREEN/YAMPA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

WSRS | 20,057

Segment B, Browns Park - Green River

Flow. Large sustained year-long flow. Subject to same pattern of releases from Flaming Gorge Reservoir as the river through Red Canyon, but fluctuations are somewhat less than those in segment A. River 75 to 1,000 feet (23 to 300 m) in width, the latter where islands and sandbars are present. Average gradient 2 feet per mile (0.4 m per km); thus, river is quiet, flat, and slow-moving. Conditions permit use of nearly all types of watercraft, including motor-propelled boats and canoes.

Accessibility. The most accessible segment. Three boat ramps and a number of primitive or secondary roads lead to or parallel riverbank. Some roads lead to ranch buildings or wildlife improvements adjacent to river.

Shoreline. Immediate shoreline principally cutbank. In other places, riverbank sloping or marshy. Short, low, rocky canyons in three locations; only prominent one is 3-mile (4.8-km) long Swallow Canyon in upper part of segment. Bottomlands and dry benches and meadows lie back of most of shoreline. Cottonwood groves are common.

The 32-mile (51-km) segment contains a number of manmade intrusions, although most are seen only briefly; these include boat ramps and roads that lead to or parallel the river. Also, two bridges, two ranch houses, several small campgrounds, a diversion canal, several pumps and related structures--including rip-rap and pilings, various historic sites, and headquarters buildings for both Utah's Waterfowl Management Area and Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge. The National Park Service Lodore Ranger Station, campground, boat ramp, and maintenance yard is also located at the extreme lower end of this segment within the river corridor.

Water Quality. Good. Turbidity caused by silt loading from tributary creeks and washes sometimes occurs. River is more turbid than in segment A. Water quality suitable for body contact recreation, except for cold winter and early spring temperatures.

Classification for Which Segment Qualifies Based on Existing Conditions--SCENIC

The classification of this segment fell on the borderline between "scenic" and "recreational," although originally the study team determined that, overall, recreational was the appropriate designation.

Several study team members felt, on the basis of the development levels specified in the Act, that at least portions of the segment were "readily accessible by road. . . ." The segment has some development along its shorelines, and is undergoing some diversion at present, mostly for the wildlife ponds.

Others, including individuals who joined the study team after the original determination was made, felt that the dominant impression of the river users was the standard by which the intrusion level was to be assessed. From the perspective of a river user, most of the intrusions are noticed only briefly, and several of them are related to the historic and wildlife values of the area. From that point of view, the area is largely primitive and undeveloped.

The matter was extensively discussed during the course of the study, and several field reconnaissances were made. Besides the Act and Guidelines, the study team also considered the levels of development along previously designated scenic and recreational river areas in other portions of the United States. After review of

the draft report and EIS, it was concluded by the National Park Service, State of Colorado, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that segment B qualified as a scenic river area.

Segment C, Lodore Through Split Mountain Canyons - Green River

Flow. Large, year-round flow. Daily fluctuations smaller than upstream as higher flows over-ride lows. Width of river from less than 100 feet (30 m) in Lodore and Split Mountain Canyons to about 1,200 feet (370 m) in Island and Rainbow Parks area, where islands and sandbars divide or braid the channel. Average gradient varies from 20 feet per mile (3.8 m per km) in Lodore and Split Mountain Canyons to about 2 feet per mile (0.4 m per km) in Island-Rainbow Park area.

Accessibility. Primitive segment. Access very limited. Other than the Lodore Campground and put-in site and the Split Mountain Campground and take-out site, vehicle access confined to a primitive road into Island Park, the Rainbow Park boat ramp, and the Echo Park Campground. A trail from Jones Hole National Fish Hatchery, well outside canyon area, provides foot access to Jones Hole Campground in Whirlpool Canyon.

Shoreline. Natural and primitive. Mostly canyon. Immediate shoreline varies from sheer rock walls to gentle, sandy, or grassy banks. Some cutbanks in Island-Rainbow Parks area. Intrusions limited, consisting of eight National Park Service floater-use campgrounds, Echo Park Campground (vehicle access), Island Park road (unobtrusive), and Rainbow Park Campground, boat ramp, and road end. Old farm machinery, a pump, fuel tanks, and National Park Service trailer are in Island-Rainbow Parks area, but these are not always noticed by river users.



Roads into Deerlodge Park at the beginning, and Echo Park (shown) at the end, are the only public accesses in the 47 miles (75.7 km) of segment D. The Green River (left background) meets the Yampa (right background) under the 800-1000-foot (240 to 300 m) wall of Steamboat Rock (left).

Water Quality. Similar to segment B. Spring runoff and summer storms can produce heavy silt load from tributary streams and washes, especially from Vermillion Creek, which enters the river in segment B. Water suitable for body contact except for cold winter and early spring temperatures. Low water temperature less of a problem below Yampa confluence.

Classification for Which Segment Qualifies Based on Existing Conditions--WILD.

Segment D, Yampa River Canyons

Flow. Undammed river with high spring runoff and low flows rest of year. Typical rafting season between early or mid-May and early July, but varies. Average monthly spring-early summer flow about 10,000 cfs ($280 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$) and low (fall-winter) flow averages about 400 cfs ($11.3 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$). River width varies from 300 to 600 feet (90 to 180 m). Overall river gradient 11 feet per mile (2.1 m per km), varying in places from 5 to 28 feet per mile (0.9 to 5.3 m per km).

Accessibility. Between Deerlodge Park and Echo Park Campground at Yampa-Green confluence, only access point to the river is at privately owned Mantle Ranch (closed to public). Except as noted below, canyons are completely natural and primitive.

Shoreline. Completely natural and primitive except for half-mile stretch of bank at Mantle Ranch and Deerlodge Park Campground and Echo Park campground at the ends of the segment. Seven National Park Service floater-use campgrounds along river; these are minor intrusions. Immediate shore area varies from sheer rock walls to gentle banks and beaches. Timbered areas sloping into river and cutbanks in some locations.

Water Quality. Fair to good. Lower than quality of Green, but easily meets secondary contact recreation criteria. Fails to meet primary criteria because of low water temperatures in winter and spring; and turbidity, mainly during spring runoff. However, low temperatures, turbidity and driftwood represent a natural condition, and for this reason are enjoyed by many boaters.

Classification for Which Segment Qualifies Based on Existing Conditions--WILD.

C H A P T E R V

F I N D I N G S A N D R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S

Following are the findings, classification and management recommendations, management objectives, and estimated costs as determined by this study:

FINDINGS

1. The entire study area, consisting of 91 miles (146.5 km) of the Green River from Flaming Gorge Dam to the southern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument (Utah and Colorado) and 47 miles (75.7 km) of the Yampa River from the eastern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument to the river's confluence with the Green River (in Colorado), is eligible for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The two rivers and their corridors possess a number of outstandingly remarkable natural values as described in chapter IV.
2. Since management of the Green and Yampa Rivers involves several agency jurisdictions, there is a need at present for greater coordination in management and planning, and this need will be increased if the Yampa and Green Rivers are added to the National System. However, preparation and implementation of a cooperative management plan following designation will aid considerably in achieving coordinated management. Two tracts of private land that may require the acquisition of scenic easements are in the Green River study area; they total 108 acres (43.7 ha) and are found in segment B. An additional 160-acre (60 ha) tract of land is found in segment D; this tract will be acquired at a later time by the National Park Service.

3. Findings as to appropriate classifications for the four segments of the Green and Yampa Rivers studied are presented in the Recommendations. The Browns Park segment of the Green River was originally found by the study team to qualify for a recreational classification. However, there were differences of opinion within the study team and among the various publics commenting on the draft report and EIS as to whether the segment should be recreational or scenic. After re-examining this issue following review of comments on the draft (which strongly favored the latter classification), the Browns Park segment was and is now recommended for designation as scenic.

4. Five alternative plans were formulated, including three that involve wild and scenic river designation. The National Economic Development (NED) Alternative, designed to maximize recreation use (see chapter XI), offers no guarantee of long-term preservation of natural values and could permit visitor-use levels that would degrade outstanding values. Environmental Quality (EQ) Alternatives 2 and 3, the "Green only" and "Yampa only" alternatives, would each designate only one of the rivers which, aside from existing constraints, would leave the other river available for development. Therefore, Alternatives 2 and 3 offer incomplete protection of the study area's outstanding natural and recreational values. The recommended plan based on EQ Alternative 1, (see chapter VIII and recommendation 3), was selected as offering the greatest degree of resource protection consistent with designating the rivers as components of the National System and classifying the segments at the appropriate level for which they now qualify.

5. The construction of major upstream water resource projects on the Yampa or a combination of smaller upstream projects could modify the present essentially natural flows of the Yampa River in

the study area, diminishing the unique natural qualities of the study area and possibly the values which qualify the river for designation.

6. During the course of this study, several issues and actions that interrelate to some degree with this study and its proposal were brought to the attention of the study team or the National Park Service. These issues and actions, which are summarized as follows, were fully considered in developing the findings and recommendations of this study. However, as noted earlier, the resolution of these issues will be necessary to determine whether additional Yampa River flows, if any, will be required specifically for wild and scenic river purposes if the Green and Yampa are designated. If flow levels are not required above those needed for other purposes, wild and scenic river designation will have no impact on upstream water development projects or water rights.

(A) The waters of the Yampa River are covered by two interstate compacts. Compacts are recognized in section 13(e) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The Colorado River Compact of 1922 divides the water of the Colorado River system between the states of the Upper and Lower Basin. The Upper Colorado River Compact of 1948 divided the allocation of water for the Upper Basin among the states which comprise it (Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming). Article 13 of the Upper Colorado River Compact requires that Colorado allow 5,000,000 acre feet (6.1 billion m³) to pass the Maybell gage on the Yampa in each running ten year series, for delivery to Utah.

(B) The Yampa and lower Green are also habitat for two endangered species of fish--the Colorado squawfish and the humpback chub; studies are now being carried out by the

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to determine their requirements for survival.

(C) A reserved water right for instream flows on the Yampa to accomplish the purposes for which Dinosaur National Monument was established has been granted by the water court of Colorado, subject to quantification; the case is now on appeal to the Colorado Supreme Court.

(D) There are about 30 water development projects proposed for the Yampa upstream from the study area; the one on which most information has been received (the Juniper-Cross Mountain project; see chapter II) lies in part in an area identified by the BLM for possible wilderness study.

CLASSIFICATION AND MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The 91 miles (146.5 km) of the Green River between the Forest Service Spillway boat ramp (0.3 miles or 0.5 km below Flaming Gorge Dam) and the southern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument (0.7 miles or 1.1 km south of the Split Mountain boat landing), and the 47 miles (75.7 km) of the Yampa River between the east boundary of Dinosaur National Monument and the confluence with the Green should be designated components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.
2. Management of the river and the river corridor should be continued under present agency jurisdictions and responsibilities:

Segment A, Green River: Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the State of Utah

Segment B, Green River: Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, and the State of Utah (primarily the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources)

Segment C, Green River: National Park Service and Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (inholding within Dinosaur National Monument)

Segment D, Yampa River: National Park Service.

As required in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, a detailed (cooperative) management plan must be developed for the area. This should be prepared within two years following river designation. The plan should coordinate the individual river management plans of the various agencies, emphasize river management actions that ensure protection and enhancement of outstanding natural values, and provide for high-quality visitor experiences. The plan should be prepared by the agencies named above, the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, and the Water and Power Resources Service (formerly the Bureau of Reclamation). Inputs should be solicited from other interested entities, including the public. The Secretary of the Interior will have administrative and management plan coordination responsibility, in cooperation with the Secretary of Agriculture and the States of Utah and Colorado.

Items to be covered in the cooperative management plan should include recreational, fish and wildlife, and interpretive developments, scenic and access easements, scenic enhancement work, Flaming Gorge Reservoir releases, water quality safeguards, site protection and restoration, recreation site and riverbank cleanup and maintenance arrangements, river patrols and law enforcement, user regulations and limits, user permits, fire protection, plant disease and insect protection, endangered species

protection, search and rescue, and signing. As part of management planning, provisions should be made for greater coordination among river management agencies and for management plan revision. Preparation of a cooperative management plan should result in compatible individual agency river management plans and policies.

3. Based on physiographic and manmade characteristics, the Green and Yampa Rivers were divided into four segments. The following classifications are recommended for these segments:

Segment A, Green River: From the Forest Service Spillway boat ramp below Flaming Gorge Dam to the Bureau of Land Management boat ramp at Indian Crossing: 15 miles (24.6 km) - - - - - SCENIC.

Segment B, Green River: From the Bureau of Land Management boat ramp at Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore in Dinosaur National Monument: 32 miles (51.5 km) - - - - - SCENIC.

Segment C, Green River: From the Gates of Lodore to the southern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument, south of the Split Mountain boat landing: 44 miles (70.8 km) - - - - - WILD.

Segment D, Yampa River: From the eastern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument to the river's confluence with the Green: 47 miles (75.7 km) - - - - - WILD.

MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

During the cooperative management planning process, a detailed boundary description should be prepared for the river area

included in the National System. The boundaries of the proposed river corridor management zone should largely coincide with the visual corridor in canyon areas. In the canyon sections of segments A, C, and D, the visual corridor averages slightly over one-half mile (1 km) in width. In the flatter areas of segments A, C, and D, and throughout most of segment B, the corridor boundary should be placed approximately one quarter of a mile (400 m) back from each bank of the river.

River mileages and approximate acreages in federal, State of Utah, and private ownership for all four segments are shown in table V-1.

Since the primary purposes of river designation are to preserve the river environment and provide for public recreation uses, additional controls on land uses in the corridor may be necessary. These can best be provided through coordinated agency regulations and agreements, and, in the case of private lands, by the purchase of scenic easements. Generally, scenic easements bind present and future landowners to existing uses and prevent developments that detract from the natural, scenic, or pastoral character of the land.

Cultural resources on or eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places are entitled to the protection afforded by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. In addition, Section 2(b) of Executive Order 11593 directs federal agencies to exercise caution to ensure cultural resources that may qualify for inclusion on the National Register are not inadvertently transferred, sold, destroyed, or substantially altered pending a determination as to whether or not they are eligible for the Register. Accordingly, the management plans for the area should be developed in consultation with the Colorado and Utah State Historic Preservation Officers and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

The Forest Service, Ashley National Forest, and the Bureau of Land Management, Vernal District, have requested the following minimum and maximum Green River flows for maintenance of good rafting and other recreation in study segments A and B. These are presented here as a possible basis of discussion and/or study during management planning, should the river be designated. The Water and Power Resources Service, however, has stated that such releases would conflict with Flaming Gorge Dam power generating requirements.¹

GREEN RIVER

	<u>Period</u>	<u>Flow</u>
Minimum	May 15-Sept. 15	1,600 cfs (45.3 m ³ /s)
	Rest of year	800 cfs (22.7 m ³ /s)
Maximum	Year-round	4,600 cfs (130.3 m ³ /s) (present maximum release)

It is recommended that a more precise determination be made of the flow needs for recreation and ecological purposes during

1. According to the Water and Power Resources Service, by law Flaming Gorge Dam must be operated so as to maximize power production; at present WPRS attempts to maintain 800 cfs (22.0 m³/s) as the normal minimum daytime flow. However, at night and on infrequent occasions during the day, summer low flows can drop to 400 cfs (11 m³/s). On a long-term basis, there is believed to be sufficient water for some upward adjustment to be made if the release pattern is analyzed on a year-long or multi-year basis, assuming legal constraints permit.

management planning for the Green River so that this information can be considered by the Water and Power Resources Service when and if the Flaming Gorge Project operation is reexamined or restudied.

PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENTS AND COSTS

No need for fee title land acquisition is foreseen as part of this proposal. However, scenic easements on an estimated 108 acres (43.7 ha) of riverfront land will cost approximately \$162,000, if it is necessary to acquire them. The two private tracts involved are situated in the Utah portion of segment B.

The proposed recreation developments itemized in table 3 of appendix A include improvements at the Forest Service Spillway and Little Hole boat ramps, at the Little Hole Campground, and on the Little Hole foot trail. Additional recreational expenditures would be made in segment A for signing, a visitor brochure, and to rehabilitate the toilet at Red Creek Rapid. A new 10-unit campground and picnic site will be developed by BLM at Bridge Hollow. Plans also call for protection and interpretation of historic sites in Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge.

As a part of the Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge master plan, a number of recreational and other developments that are not dependent on river designation will be made. These improvements include rehabilitation of two existing campgrounds and boat ramps and construction of one new campground and boat ramp. Other developments include a small visitor center, and a number of miles of new and improved roads.

No new river-related recreation site developments are planned within Dinosaur National Monument as a part of this proposal.

Total recreation improvement costs associated with this proposal would be \$912,650; annual additional administration, operation, and maintenance costs for recreation would be approximately \$12,000.

The total estimated easement acquisition and development costs of the proposed designation would be \$1,074,650 (1978 dollars)².

2. Cost estimates for scenic easement acquisitions, recreation improvements and developments, and additional annual administration, operation, and maintenance for recreation are based on information that was provided by federal land-managing agencies in the river corridor.

Table V-1
**River Mileage and Approximate Corridor Acreage by Federal,
 State, and Private Ownership**

Ownership	Miles and Acreage	GREEN RIVER			YAMPA RIVER Segment D	Total Study Area
		Segment A	Segment B	Segment C		
Forest Service	River Miles	9.0 (14.5 km)				9.0 (14.5 km)
	Corridor Acreage	2,880 (1,170 ha)				2,880 (1,170 ha)
Bureau of Land Management	River Miles	5.5 (8.9 km)	9.6 (15.4 km)			15.1 (24.3 km)
	Corridor Acreage	1,760 (710 ha)	3,070 (1,240 ha)			4,830 (1,950 ha)
Fish and Wildlife Service	River Miles		15.6 (25.1 km)			15.6 25.1 km)
	Corridor Acreage		4,990 (2,020 ha)			4,990 (2,020 ha)
National Park Service	River Miles	. .	2.5 (4.0 km)	42.5 ¹ (68.4 km)	46.5 (74.8 km)	91.5 (147.2 km)
	Corridor Acreage		800 (320 ha)	13,600 (5,510 ha)	14,880 (6,020 ha)	29,280 (11,850 ha)
State of Utah	River Miles	0.9 (1.4 km)	3.2 (5.2 km)	1.5 2.4 km)		5.6 (9.0 km)
	Corridor Acreage	467 (194 ha)	1,020 (410 ha)	510 (200 ha)		1,997 (804 ha)
Private	River Miles		0.8 ² (1.3 km)		0.5 (0.8 km)	1.3 (2.1 km)
	Corridor Acreage		370 (150 ha)		160 (60 ha)	530 (210 ha)
All Lands	River Miles	15.4 (24.8 km)	31.7 (51.0 km)	44.0 (70.8 km)	47.0 (75.7 km)	138.1 (222.3 km)
	Corridor Acreage	5,107 (2,074 ha)	10,250 (4,150 ha)	14,110 (5,710 ha)	15,040 (6,080 ha)	44,507 (18,014 ha)

1. The Colorado portion of segment C includes 23.5 miles (37.8 km) of NPS-managed river. The remainder of the segment C river mileages are in Utah.

2. Of this total, 0.5 miles (0.8 km) of river are in Utah; 0.3 miles (0.5 km) are in Colorado.

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

SUMMARY

Draft () Final (X) Environmental Statement

Department of the Interior, National Park Service

1. Type of Action: () Administrative (X) Legislative
2. Brief description of action: The Green and Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers Study was conducted pursuant to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, Public Law 90-542, as amended, and the request of the Governor of Utah. The study team recommends legislative action to include a 91-mile segment of the Green River and approximately 29,470 acres of adjacent land located in the States of Utah and Colorado and a 47-mile segment of the Yampa River and approximately 15,040 acres of adjacent land in the State of Colorado in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, classified as 91 miles of Wild River area, and 47 miles of Scenic river area. Overall coordination and administration will be the responsibility of the Secretary of the Interior, with individual administration of the Green River segments by the Forest Service (USDA), the Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service (USDI), and the Utah Department of Natural Resources (Division of Wildlife Resources); administration of the Yampa River segment would be by the National Park Service.
3. Summary of environmental impact and adverse environmental effects: Inclusion of 91 miles of the Green River and 47 miles of the Yampa River and approximately 44,500 acres comprising their immediate environment in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System will have an overall effect of preserving the existing natural, recreational, cultural, and water resource values of the rivers. Adjacent land uses would remain

relatively unchanged and scenic easements on 108 acres of private land will prevent incompatible developments on private land. Water resource developments within the two river proposal areas would be precluded and possibly could be precluded or modified upstream from the Yampa study segment; this may indirectly affect mining outside the study area to a limited extent. Minor disturbances to soil, vegetation, and wildlife will occur at recreational development and improvement sites.

4. Alternatives considered: In addition to the proposed action, other alternatives considered were the (1) No Action Alternative, (2) National Economic Development Alternative, (3) designation of the Yampa River only, and (4) designation of the Green River only.

5. Comments were requested and, as noted by an asterisk,
received from the following:

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation*

Water Resources Council

Department of Agriculture*

Department of the Army*

Department of Defense

Department of Commerce

Environmental Protection Agency*

Department of Energy*

Department of Health, Education and Welfare

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Department of Transportation

Department of the Interior:

 Fish and Wildlife Service*

 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service*

 Bureau of Land Management*

 Geological Survey*

Water and Power Resources Service*

Bureau of Mines*

Governor of Colorado*

Governor of Utah*

Governor of Wyoming*

Routt County Board of County Commissioners*

Juniper Water Conservancy District*

Cheyenne Board of Public Utilities*

State of Colorado Clearinghouse*

State of Utah Clearinghouse*

Colorado West Area Council of Governments

Uintah Basin (Utah) Association

Colorado River Water Conservation District*

City of Golden, Colorado

The Wilderness Society

Western River Guides Association

University of Colorado Wilderness Study Group

Colorado Whitewater Association*

Sierra Club*

Colorado Open Space Council

Rio Blanco Board of County Commissioners*

Mesa County Board of County Commissioners*

Canyon Country Council

Rocky Mtn. Center on the Environment

Moffat County Planning Commission and Planning Department*

Utah Wildlife and Outdoor Recreation Federation*

Upper Colorado River Commission*

Daggett County Commissioners

Little Snake Conservancy District

Wyoming Water Development Commission*

Wyoming Departments of Agriculture, and Economic Planning
and Development

City of Cheyenne*

City of Delta, Colorado*
Colorado Mountain Club*
Partners, Inc.*
United Sportsmans Club of Colorado*
Utah Nature Study Society*

6. Date statement made available to EPA and the public:

Draft: July 27, 1979

Final:

C O N T E N T S

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

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C H A P T E R V I

D E S C R I P T I O N O F T H E P R O P O S A L

THE PROPOSAL

The U.S. Department of the Interior proposes that the 91 miles (146.4 km) of the Green River between the Spillway boat ramp below Flaming Gorge Dam and the southern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument and the 47 miles (75.7 km) of the Yampa River between the eastern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument and its confluence with the Green be designated components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system, as follows.

The 15-mile-long (24.6 km) segment of the Green River from the boat ramp below Flaming Gorge Dam to the boat ramp at Indian Crossing is recommended for scenic classification.

The 32 miles (51.0 km) of the Green River from the boat ramp at Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore in Dinosaur National Monument is recommended for a scenic classification.

The 44-mile-long (70.8 km) segment of the Green River from the Gates of Lodore to the southern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument (0.7 mile (1.1 km) south of Split Mountain boat landing) is recommended for wild classification.

The 47-mile-long (75.7 km) segment of the Yampa River from the eastern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument to its confluence with the Green River is recommended for wild classification.

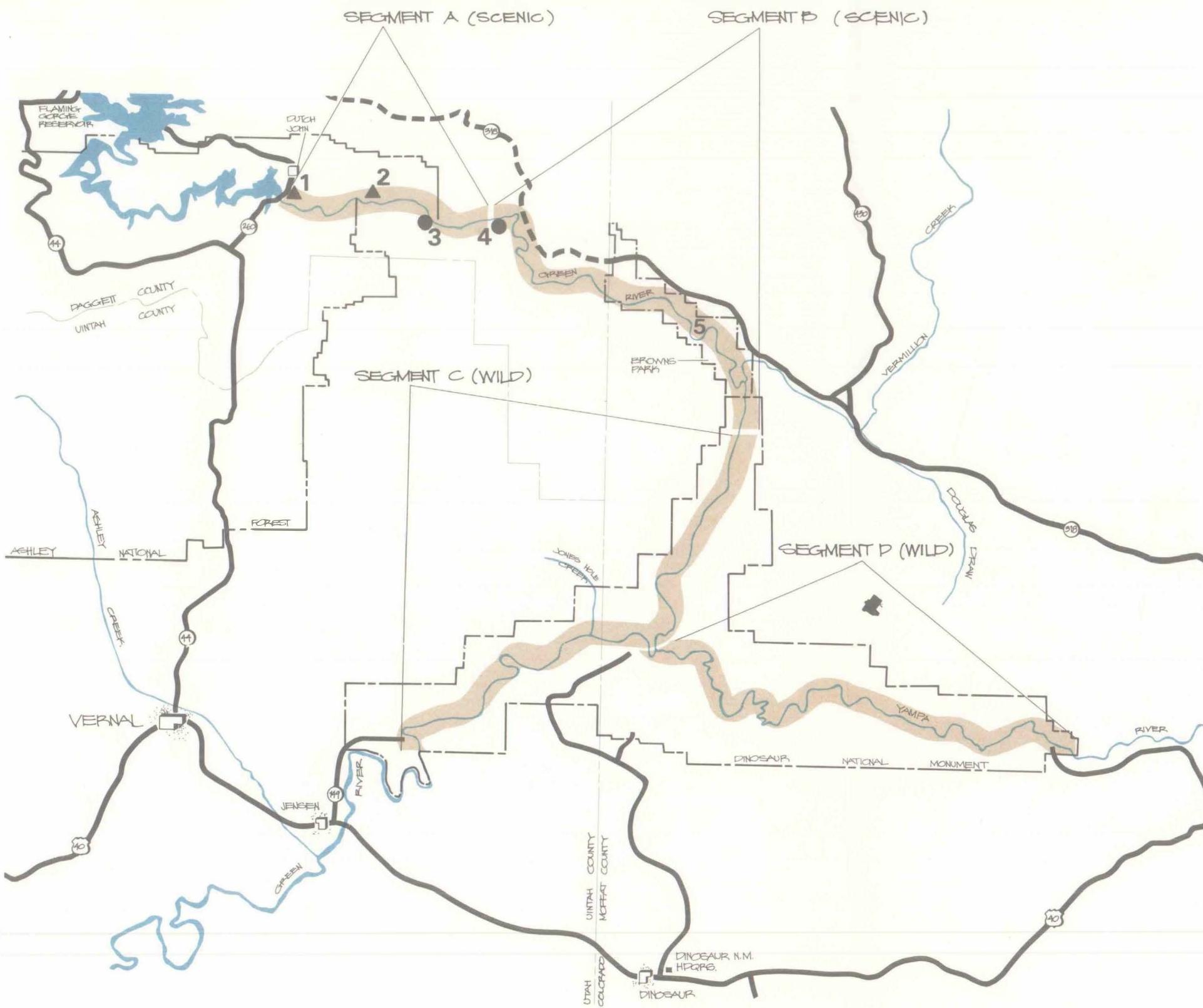
Background

The National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (P.L. 90-542) created a system of wild, scenic, and recreational rivers, designated the initial components of the system, and set forth procedures by which additional rivers could be studied for possible inclusion in the system. In January 1975, an amendment to the Act (P.L. 93-621) directed that the Green River within the State of Colorado and the Yampa River within the boundaries of Dinosaur National Monument were to be studied and reported on to Congress by October 2, 1979. Due to the proximity of the two rivers, it was decided to treat them in a single study.

In August 1976 the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Nathaniel P. Reed, approved Utah Governor Calvin L. Rampton's request that the Green River study be extended into Utah, both upstream to Flaming Gorge Dam and downstream to the southern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument.

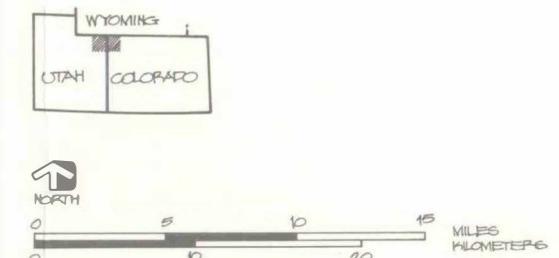
CORRIDOR AREA, ACQUISITION, AND DEVELOPMENT

Of the 44,500 acres (18,000 ha) in the river corridor, about 530 acres (215 ha) are privately owned; no need is foreseen for outright acquisition of any private lands as a part of this proposal. However, scenic easements may be acquired from the owners of two tracts on the Green River in the Utah portion of segment B. These easements, which involve approximately 108 acres (43.7 ha) of land, may be needed to prevent incompatible and visually obtrusive future developments and protect natural features. Generally, scenic easements restrict land uses to those currently being practiced. The Bureau of Land Management would acquire and enforce the provisions of the easements, if a determination is made that they are needed. The total estimated easement costs would be \$162,000.



LEGEND

- SPILLWAY BOAT RAMP
- LITTLE HOLE CAMPGROUND, BOAT RAMP, AND TRAIL
- RED CREEK FLOAT STOP
- PROPOSED BRIDGE HOLLOW CAMPGROUND AND PICNIC AREA
- BROWNS PARK NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE
- BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT RECREATION SITES
- ▲ U.S. FOREST SERVICE RECREATION SITES



PROPOSED DESIGNATION, CLASSIFICATION, AND RECREATION DEVELOPMENTS

GREEN/YAMPA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
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Some recreational developments planned by the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Forest Service under existing management plans are discussed in the section "Interrelationships with Other Programs and Projects," which follows. Additional recreation developments will be needed with Wild and Scenic River designation (see map). In segment A they involve general improvements at the Spillway boat ramp, along the Little Hole Trail, at Little Hole Campground and boat ramp (Forest Service), and at Red Creek Rapid (BLM). At Little Hole Campground, the improvements will entail rehabilitating 17 camping units, including the water system; hardening roads, spurs, trails, the parking lot, and the boat ramp; and expanding the site by constructing 30 additional units, 2 vault toilets, and additional water system. At Spillway, the boat ramp, parking area, and road will be upgraded and a foot trail and stairway will be constructed between the parking lot and the boat ramp. The Little Hole Trail, a National Recreation Trail, will be improved between Spillway and Little Hole Campground. The toilet at Red Creek Rapid will be rehabilitated.

The proposal would also require that a new 10-unit campground and 4-unit picnic site be developed by BLM at Bridge Hollow in segment B. This development would include tables, grills, toilets, some shelters, parking, and a fish cleaning station. The Fish and Wildlife Service within Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge is and will be involved with historic site stabilization and preservation. As a part of this proposal, additional protection and visitor interpretation work would be done. Total recreation improvement costs associated with this proposal would be \$912,650. Annual additional administration, operation, and maintenance (A, O, and M) would be approximately \$12,000; this represents only the A, O, and M which is attributable to this proposal, and is based on agency estimates of increased costs.

The total estimated development and easement costs of the proposal are \$1,074,650 (1978 dollars).

ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

The entire 91-mile (146.4 km) study reach of the Green River as well as the 47-mile (75.7 km) study reach of the Yampa River will be managed in accord with classification criteria in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Objectives included in these criteria are intended to:

Preserve the river and its immediate environment, including the outstanding natural values it possesses.

Preserve the free-flowing condition of the waters.

Maintain or enhance the existing excellent water and air quality.

Provide high quality recreational opportunities associated with a free-flowing river for present and future generations.

Assure preservation of historic and archeologic values.

The Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, and the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources will continue to administer their lands within the proposed river management zone. Adjacent lands administered by these agencies will be managed to protect the natural values of the designated river corridor. Overall coordination of the management planning will be the responsibility of the Secretary of the Interior.

As required in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, a detailed cooperative management plan will be developed for the area. A period of two years following designation should be allowed for its preparation. This management plan will have as its objectives the protection and enhancement of those outstanding values which qualified the rivers for inclusion into the National System. The plan will assure protection of the rivers by controlling use within carrying capacities established by the managing agencies. This plan will include coordinated and compatible agency policies relating to visitor use as well as agreements that limit land uses to those consistent with wild, scenic, or recreational designation criteria.

About three miles of unregulated motorcycle and four-wheel drive vehicle use and trails that have been established below Little Hole and above Indian Crossing in segment A will be eliminated under Wild and Scenic River management.

As part of cooperative management planning, a detailed boundary description will be prepared for the river area included in the National System. The boundaries of the proposed river corridor management zone should coincide approximately with the visual corridor in canyon areas. In the canyon sections of segments A, C, and D, the visual corridor averages slightly over 1/2-mile (0.8 km) in width. In the flatter areas of segments A, C, and D, and throughout most of segment B, the immediate river corridor boundary should be placed approximately one-quarter mile (0.4 km) back from each bank of the river. However, the visual corridor will be managed by public agencies to ensure that obtrusive impacts and significant modifications of the natural environment from developments are not permitted on the public lands, even if such developments or modifications would be beyond the actual corridor boundary.

In the development of new and the improvement of existing recreation areas, planning and construction will ensure that all facilities and roads are unobtrusive and blend in with their natural surroundings as much as possible. Recreational developments in the wild segments will be of the "primitive" type only. Except for access to boat ramps, new roads (proposed in segment B) will be kept back a reasonable distance from the immediate river bank.

Subject to valid existing rights, river segments designated as wild will be withdrawn from all forms of appropriation under the mining and mineral leasing laws as specified in section 9(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. This will include the river bed as well as a corridor one-quarter mile (0.4 km) wide on both sides of the river. In scenic and recreational reaches, prospecting and mining may be conducted and mineral leases, licenses, and permits may be granted by managing agencies, subject to such conditions as the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture may prescribe, as provided in section 9(a) of the Act. For the study segments of the Green and Yampa rivers, this will mean little change from present as the National Park Service, Forest Service, and Bureau of Land Management do not now permit mining or mineral exploration disturbance within the river corridors.

INTERRELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

Forest Service (Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area)

The Flaming Gorge Dam and Reservoir was established as a National Recreation Area (NRA) by Public Law 90-540 in 1968. The NRA incorporated a portion of the Ashley National Forest and is administered by the Forest Service under a comprehensive NRA management plan.

In the authorizing legislation, Congress directed the Secretary of Agriculture to administer the NRA in such a manner as to provide for (1) public recreation, (2) conservation of scenic, scientific, historic, and other values, and (3) such management, utilization and disposal of natural resources as are necessary and compatible with the purpose for which the recreation area was established.

An eastern arm of Flaming Gorge NRA takes in 12 miles (19.3 km) and approximately 3,600 acres (1,460 ha) of the Green River corridor below Flaming Gorge Dam. At the lower end of this area, the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) cooperatively administer about 4 miles (6.4 km) of the river corridor. The Forest Service-managed portion of the Red Canyon segment of the Green River is one of the most intensively used reaches in the entire study area. The Forest Service has plans to rehabilitate a toilet at the Little Hole boat ramp and pave the Little Hole access road under its existing management plans. Other plans for the Green River corridor are contained in the Wild and Scenic River proposal.

Since the Red Canyon segment of the Green is now being managed as though it were a scenic component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System with the area's outstanding values recognized and protected by the management plan, scenic river designation of this reach will be consistent with present NRA management policies and direction.

Bureau of Land Management

The Bureau of Land Management manages about 80 percent of the lands in the Green River corridor between the Red Creek Float Stop in the Red Canyon segment and the Utah-Colorado State line in the Browns Park segment. The area is part of the Diamond Mountain

Resources Area. The Taylor Grazing Act of 1934 and Executive Order 10355 of May 25, 1952, have given the Secretary of the Interior and the Bureau of Land Management authority to manage, classify, and withdraw these lands for public purposes. The Classification and Multiple Use Act of September 19, 1964, provided for multiple use and sustained yield of public land products and services; this was superceded by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (the BLM "Organic Act"), which established public land policy and guidelines for its administration.

As set forth in 43 CFR 8,000, the BLM has the authority to preserve and protect significant natural, historic, and cultural resources, to provide for their public use, and to establish scenic corridors along rivers and streams, trails, and other lands. BLM has recognized the Green River corridor as an area with special values, and manages the area for preservation of those values and public use under a special Green River Interim Management Plan (1976). Except for restoration of the Jarvie Site, the BLM has no plans for recreational improvements or controls on use other than those in the wild and scenic river proposal and what may be agreed to and included in the Wild and Scenic River management plan. Scenic river management will be consistent with present BLM management and management goals.

MAPCO, Inc., of Tulsa, Oklahoma, has proposed to build a liquid hydrocarbons pipeline from Hobbs Station, Texas, to the Rock Springs, Wyoming, area. The pipeline would cross the Green River in Browns Park or possibly at Little Hole, as a 10-3/4 inch (27 cm) outside diameter buried pipeline. The New Mexico State Office of the BLM is the lead agency for processing the application and preparing an environmental statement, under the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act and the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920. The permit could be issued as early as the summer of 1980, with construction commencing thereafter.

The BLM has identified the Cross Mountain area, site of the lower of two reservoirs in the Colorado River Water Conservation District's Juniper-Cross Mountain Project, as a potential wilderness study area. This is discussed in chapters I and VIII.

Utah Department of Wildlife Resources (Browns Park Waterfowl Management Area)

The Utah Department of Wildlife Resources manages a total of 1,869 acres (756.7 ha) of land and just over 6 miles (9.6 km) of Green River shoreline within the Browns Park Waterfowl Management Area. Most of this area is within the river corridor. The management area is within five separated, irregularly shaped tracts in the upper part of the Browns Park segment and was purchased as mitigation for wildlife habitat losses connected with the development of Flaming Gorge Reservoir.

The area is managed to provide for waterfowl production, wintering, and resting. It also provides public recreation, including fishing, hunting, boating, birdwatching, and sightseeing. The area is open during duck and goose hunting season (October 1 to early January). The rest of the year, marsh and pond areas are closed to the public. However, the river and river banks are open to fishing and floating use throughout the year.

The Utah State Land Board manages one tract involving 0.75 miles (1.2 km) of river shoreline adjacent to the lower part of the Browns Park Waterfowl Management Area, near the Colorado state line.

Designation of the river should be compatible with the purposes and management of the waterfowl management area and the State Land Board tract.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge)

The 14,000 acre (5,670 ha) Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1965 to provide habitat for ducks, geese, and other migratory waterfowl. The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 constitutes the refuge "organic act"; it expresses Congressional policy and provides guidelines for the administration of the National Wildlife Refuge system. Under the Act's provisions, the Fish and Wildlife Service has complete control over access to and use of refuge lands.

The refuge is being managed primarily to provide for the production of wildlife, especially that of geese and ducks. A secondary purpose is to provide for outdoor recreation, which includes fishing, hunting, boating, camping, picnicking, birdwatching and nature study, and sightseeing. The river through the refuge is open throughout the year for boating; however, the river is closed to fishing between March 15 and June 15 to minimize disturbance to bird nesting.

The area is administered and will be developed according to a September 1967 refuge master plan. Several master plan improvements are scheduled that are not part of the Wild and Scenic River proposal. They include rehabilitation of two campgrounds and boat ramps and construction of one new campground and boat ramp, construction of additional riverside dikes for the development of new marsh areas, and development of a small visitor center. Plans also call for purchase, on a willing seller basis, of approximately 1,504 acres (609 ha) of private and state inholdings within the refuge. A programmatic EIS has been done by the Fish and Wildlife Service which discusses these improvements.

As long as proposed refuge wildlife and recreation developments are completed in an environmentally sensitive manner, designation of the Browns Park segment as a scenic component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System will be compatible with the purposes, development, and management of the refuge.

National Park Service (Dinosaur National Monument)

Dinosaur National Monument was established by a 1915 Presidential proclamation to ". . . preserve an extraordinary deposit of dinosaurian and other gigantic remains . . ." The original area was only 80 acres (32.4 ha) in size.

A 1938 Presidential proclamation enlarged the national monument to 203,855 acres (82,532 ha). The proclamation cited "public interest" and the presence of "various objects of historic and scientific interest," and stipulated that management will be in accordance with the 1916 Act. Public Law 86-729 (1960) increased the monument to 206,662 acres (83,669 ha) and provided authorization to acquire land for access from U.S. Highway 40. The act of 1916 which created the National Park Service, directed the agency to "conserve the scenery and natural and historic objects and wildlife therein and provide for the enjoyment of same in such manner as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." This act set forth the general objectives for management of all national parks and monuments.

In addition to preserving outstanding natural, cultural, and scientific features, Dinosaur National Monument provides high quality recreation experiences associated with use of the canyons of the Green and Yampa Rivers. In accordance with the Wilderness Act of 1964, 205,672 acres (83,268 ha) within the monument have been proposed for wilderness designation. This represents over 95

percent of the monument's total acreage and includes about 95 percent of the 91 miles (146.4 km) of river corridor in the monument. The rivers lie in the core area of this wilderness proposal and the National Park Service now manages the area as de facto wilderness by preventing degradation of the river's natural features and wilderness qualities. General guidance for management of the monument as a whole is provided by a "statement for management." A river management plan and user permit system limits and controls annual river use.

The National Park Service has no current plans for additional recreational developments in the river corridors, although one or two river campgrounds may be slightly relocated. As described in chapter III, the monument river management plan has recently been revised. This resulted in the imposition of daily launch limits, reductions in the permitted use levels at and and an increase in the number of river campgrounds, specified launch dates for commercial rafters, a change in the means of selecting applicants for regular season rafting permits, a simplification of the process for obtaining permits for day and off-season use, a lowering of maximum raft group size, and an increase in the permitted number of noncommercial rafters. The types and annual amounts of river use that now occur are not expected to change significantly, although there will be some leveling out of use during the main recreation season. In addition, user impacts on certain campgrounds will be reduced slightly.

The National Park Service is quantifying the reserved water right for the monument which was discussed in chapter II. Because some of the studies on which this quantification will be based are incomplete and a court decision is involved, it is not possible to state the amounts of flow and timing of flows that will be requested, nor the amounts which will be granted. This water right could prove sufficient for wild and scenic river purposes,

making it unnecessary to apply for a future right based on wild and scenic designation.

Utah State/Daggett County Highway Departments

Daggett County, with the aid of the State of Utah, has proposed to reconstruct the Utah portion of the Maybell to Dutch John road. (The Colorado portion is identified as State Highway 318.) This road provides access to segments A and B of the Green River from Highway 40 in Colorado, and from areas to the north via Utah Highway 260 and Wyoming Highway 373. A portion of this road may be realigned, and several alternatives that have been considered would place the road in the Green River visual corridor in the lower end of segment A and the upper end of segment B (Red Creek to Jesse Ewing Canyon). One alternative would closely parallel the river through much of segment A. If this portion of the Green is included in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, reconstruction of the road within the visual corridor will not be permitted (except at one point where it is already within the corridor), assuming a feasible and prudent alignment alternative exists.

Endangered Species Act of 1973

The Endangered Species Act, 15 U.S.C. 1531-1542, requires federal agencies to insure that their actions do not jeopardize any species listed as "endangered" or "threatened" or destroy or adversely modify the species' critical habitat.

The Fish and Wildlife Service has advised that unless exemptions are granted to proposed water and development projects under section 7, the Endangered Species Act offers protection to the

endangered fish and that its protective provisions function independently of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Cultural Preservation

Section 10(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act states that wild and scenic river administration will give "primary emphasis" to "protecting . . . historic, archeologic, and scientific features." Cultural resources included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places are also accorded the protection of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and section 2(b) of Executive Order 11593, in accordance with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's regulations for the Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties. A management plan for the area will be developed in consultation with the Advisory Council and the Colorado and Utah State Historic Preservation Offices. The coordinated management planning effort will include inputs from the State offices.

Executive Orders 11988 and 11990-Floodplain and Wetland Developments

Recreation developments and improvements proposed at the Spillway boat ramp, Little Hole Campground and boat ramp, Red Creek Rapid Float Stop, and Bridge Hollow may lie in the 100-year floodplain. Since recreation is a permissible use of floodplains and since the facilities must be used at normal or low water stages, no practical alternative to siting them in the floodplain appears to exist. Other alternatives would entail environmental damage caused either by floaters descending to the river from the facilities or failing to use the facilities because of their inconvenient distance from the river. To the extent practicable, these facilities will be floodproofed and

designed to minimize pollution during a flood. No developments are proposed for wetlands.

In keeping with the provisions of E.O. 11988, public review of the proposal to develop or improve these facilities is being sought with the issuance of this report by submission to the A-95 clearinghouses. Further public involvement will be handled by appropriate management planning for the rivers and during site-specific planning. The agencies will also apply for the necessary permits and any required variances in the respective counties and states.

Other Programs, Studies, and Mandates

The proposal is consistent with the goals of the Colorado (1976) and Utah (1972) Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans and the Nationwide Outdoor Recreation Plan (Outdoor Recreation - A Legacy for America, 1973).

Two federal resource studies have been conducted in the Yampa Basin. The first, "An Environmental Assessment of Impacts of Coal Development on the Water Resources of the Yampa River Basin, Colorado and Wyoming," was completed recently by the U.S. Geological Survey. This 2-1/2 year program was designed primarily to assess the availability and quality of the basin's water resources. It also evaluated potential environmental and selected socio-economic impacts of energy resource development plans proposed by mining and power companies. The second effort, the "Upper Colorado Resource Study," is an interagency study team program led by the Water and Power Resources Service. The goal of this study has been to identify reasonable alternatives to meet water requirements for the most likely projected levels of oil shale production. Recreation and fish and wildlife enhancement, including rivers

preservation, were included in the planning. The project has incorporated previous investigative efforts including results of the Yellow Jacket Project, the Western Energy Expansion Study, the Lower Yampa Project Study, and others. Reports stemming from these two studies are yet to be issued.

Energy Developments

Energy resource development is the major industry in the Green River subregion, which includes the three-county study region (Moffat in Colorado and Daggett and Uintah in Utah). Coal, oil, gas, uranium, phosphate rock, trona (soda ash), and gilsonite are the significant minerals, and they have a major economic impact on a region-wide basis. As discussed in Chapter II, there is future potential for development of new supplies of coal, oil shale, low-grade uranium, hydroelectric power, and oil and gas.

Regionwide, the effects of future energy development are expected to be much greater than the effects on the Yampa and Green River study area, although this development may result in competition for Yampa River Basin water or the power it could generate. New and larger towns, resource recovery developments and plants, highways and railroad spur lines, electric transmission lines, and increased tourism and recreational developments will change much of the character of the three-county region and surrounding area.

Water Resource Projects

The largest water development project in the study region is Flaming Gorge Dam on the Green River. The Yampa River mainstem is undammed; however, about 50 relatively small impoundments, ranging from about 5 to 24,000 acre-feet (6,200 to 30 million m³)

capacity, exist on its tributaries. Existing and proposed projects are discussed and displayed in chapter II under "Water Resources."

Wild and Scenic River designation would not affect or be affected by any new or proposed projects upstream from Flaming Gorge Reservoir. No water resource development projects have been proposed downstream from Flaming Gorge Reservoir, although those described in chapter II have been tentatively evaluated as a part of the Colorado River Basin Peaking Power Investigations. The effect of Wild and Scenic River designation of the Yampa on water development proposals upstream is discussed in the following chapters.

C H A P T E R V I I

D E S C R I P T I O N O F T H E E N V I R O N M E N T

A regional description and a description of the river corridors are given in chapters II and III.

DESCRIPTION O F T H E P R O B A B L E F U T U R E E N V I R O N M E N T W I T H O U T T H E P R O P O S A L

The probable future environment without the proposal is described as the "No Action Alternative" in chapter XI.

CHAPTER VIII

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED ACTION

Inclusion of the 91 miles (146.5 km) of the Green and the 47 miles (75.7 km) of the Yampa in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System will provide statutory protection for the entire study corridor, and long-term preservation of the river's natural and recreational values and free-flowing conditions.

The proposed action will cause small increases in recreation use and attendant visitor impacts over those expected to occur without designation. These additional impacts will be confined to segments A and B of the Green River. The total increase in use over that anticipated with no wild and scenic river designation is estimated to be about 2 percent (3,750 recreation days).

The proposal could also preclude or modify the construction of any upstream water resource project on the Yampa if the Secretary of the Interior determines it would have a "direct and adverse" impact on the values for which the rivers were designated.

LAND USE IMPACTS

Ownership and Management Impacts

Scenic easements, agreements in which the landowner sells the rights to make certain changes in land use which would degrade the natural values of the area, may be obtained from the owners of two tracts of private land (involving 108 acres or 43.7 ha) in the Utah

portion of segment B. These easements would impact the owners by restricting uses to those currently being practiced--agriculture, grazing, and family residential occupancy. Unsightly future developments, such as large trash piles and signs would be prohibited. At the same time, the scenery, riparian vegetation, and pastoral scenes will be protected and preserved. These easements, which will be individually written, will also prevent the lands from being developed, subdivided, or used for commercial recreation purposes. The acquisition of scenic easements could also result in minor loss of property tax revenue to Daggett County.

Implementation of the proposal will have some effects on federal and state agency management of the river area. For the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management (segments A and B), current management will not change substantially because present management is consistent with inclusion at presently being managed essentially as though they were already in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (see "Interrelationship with Other Programs and Projects" in the previous chapter). However, designation will result in somewhat more intensive management by the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management. This will involve more river patrol and enforcement and eventually may require some restrictions in the amounts and types of recreation use permitted. At present there are plans to monitor use; restrictions may be imposed if use begins to degrade the area. This plan projects a use of about 13,000 recreation days in 1990, a level which is not expected to require restrictions on use. Restrictions would require additional seasonal personnel, rafts, vehicles, and additional work by full-time employees, but it is expected that use would rise considerably above the projected 1990 level before limits would be imposed.

Management of Utah's Browns Park Waterfowl Management Area and the Fish and Wildlife Service's Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge would be impacted primarily through the precautions and special

measures that will be called for in the development of future improvements for waterfowl production and recreation use. These planned improvements, which will include additional pumps, dikes, roads, and recreation facilities, may require screening and other measures to reduce obtrusiveness and partially restore the natural appearance of disturbed areas. It might be necessary to locate some of the proposed 50 miles (80 km) of roads in the refuge out of the corridor but the extent of this impact cannot be quantified without site-specific studies. Other proposed refuge developments would probably not be affected as long as precautions are taken to reduce the obtrusiveness of these developments to a minimum. Utah's cooperation in this matter would be voluntary. Objectives and standards for this work would be covered in the cooperative river management plan.

In both wildlife areas, but mainly in the refuge, somewhat more intensive management of river corridor recreation use will be required. This would involve some additional recreation site cleanup and increased visitor contact. Additional efforts, such as instituting patrols, educational and interpretational programs and stabilization measures, will be required to prevent vandalism and removal of materials at historic ranch and cabin sites.

Designation is not expected to affect National Park Service management of the river corridor within Dinosaur National Monument other than to require increased coordination with other Green River managing agencies.

Agricultural Impacts

The proposed action would, by the acquisition of scenic easements on 108 acres (43 ha) of private land, maintain those lands in agricultural, grazing, and residential use. No other effects on



The recommended alternative would require screening and /or
submersible pump units to be installed during the construction
of future developments in Browns Park. HCRS

agriculture, including grazing, are foreseen in the corridor. If, as discussed below, this proposal precluded construction of the Juniper-Cross Mountain Project or modified the project, up to 4,500 acres of currently irrigated land would not be inundated. However, future development of irrigated agricultural land below that project would be reduced or prevented.

SOILS AND VEGETATION IMPACTS

Expected additional recreation use of shorelines between the Spillway boat ramp and the Swallow Canyon boat ramp in the upper end of segment B will cause minor increases in soil erosion and compaction on about 15 acres (6 ha). Soils will also be affected at Little Hole Campground and boat ramp, the Red Creek Rapid float stop, Indian Crossing, and at the Swallow Canyon boat ramp; these areas total about 50 acres (20 ha).

There will be temporary soil disturbances involving about 2 acres (0.8 ha) at the Spillway boat ramp, 20 acres (8 ha) at Little Hole Campground, and 10 acres (4 ha) at the Bridge Hollow Campground site for recreation facility rehabilitation and development and work on access roads and parking areas. At Little Hole, this work will include surfacing of roads and parking spaces for family unit areas.

The soil disturbance outlined above will also affect grasses, shrubs, and trees in segments A and B. Again, the increased impacts will be minor and losses minimal. These impacts will include a limited amount of additional vandalism and tree damage by firewood gatherers--mostly at developed recreation sites. The acquisition of scenic easements involving two tracts of private land in segment B would have the beneficial impact of protecting trees, mainly cottonwoods, from being removed within the immediate river corridor.

Vegetative screening in segment B would produce an increase in shrubs, brush and trees--probably willow and cottonwood--along portions of the proposed roads and around recreation developments in the corridor.

There will be a slight increase in the threat of wildfire; caused by increased use, the hazard involves mostly grass and shrubs. If a major fire were to occur and spread up the canyon walls, vegetative cover, wildlife, and scenery would be altered; this impact would be major but improbable.

MINING IMPACTS

Minerals in the corridor affected by this proposal are not present in quantities sufficient to be mined economically, and mining is not now permitted in any portion of the study area; thus the proposal is not expected to have any impact on mining in the corridor.

As discussed in chapter II, there are significant oil, gas, coal, and uranium resources upstream from the study area. The implementation of this proposal may indirectly affect mining of them. Several estimates of coal production in 1990 are available. Figure R1-1 of the BLM's Northwest Colorado Coal EIS indicates an annual figure of 30-35 million tons (27-32 million metric tons). Steele¹ indicates the USGS Yampa River Basin Assessment is using a figure of 20 million tons (18 million metric tons) per year. To produce an estimate of maximum impacts, the larger figure was used in this analysis.

1. Steele, Timothy Doak. "Coal Resource Development Alternatives, Residuals Management, and Impacts on the Water Resources of the Yampa River Basin, Colorado and Wyoming." Paper available from USGS (1976).

Impacts on Electrical Power for Mining

If the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act limits or precludes Yampa basin water resource development, as discussed in the Water Resources Impact section, up to 300,000,000 kwh/year or more of hydropower may not be generated. According to the Draft Environmental Statement on Mining and Reclamation, Westmoreland Resources Tract III, Crow Indian Ceded Area, Montana, 5,250,000 kwh is required to strip-mine one million tons of coal. Thus to support production of 35 million tons (32 million metric tons), the largest amount predicted in the Northwest Colorado EIS, about 183,750,000 kwh/year would be required. This is about 60% of the output projected from the Juniper-Cross Mountain Project but only about 5 percent of the output from a 500 MW coalburning plant.² Since there is about 1,190 MW generating capacity at area powerplants, with another 1,000 MW planned, sufficient electrical power should be available for mining from coalburning plants.

Impacts on Water for Mining

The proposal may indirectly affect water used for coal production in the upper Yampa basin. Water use for coal production would be two kinds--that used in onsite plant operation (estimated at 12,000 acre-feet or 14.8 million m³ a year in the Northwest Colorado Coal EIS), and that used in production, e.g., for coal washing and dust suppression. A range of figures for production water use was

2. Calculated by assuming the plant will be on-line 89.5 percent of the time, with 90 percent efficiency while on line.

generated using various estimates³; these produced a projection of water use of 644 to 62,900 acre-feet (794,000 to 77.6 million m³) at an annual production level of 35 million tons (32 million metric tons).

These figures are in accord with the estimate of Freudenthal and others,⁴ who cite a figure of 2,340,000 m³ per million metric tons of coal mined. Their figure, which includes some irrigation for reclamation purposes, would produce 60,500 acre-feet (74.6 million m³) of annual water use for the mining of 35 million tons (32 million metric tons) of coal in the upper Yampa Basin.

These figures deal only with water used in mining, processing, burning coal, and reclaiming mined land. Two other uses of coal may also be considered; the first is gasification, and the other transport from the area by slurry pipeline. If the same figure for mining production--35 million tons or 32 million metric tons annually--is used, and 4.4 million tons (4 million metric tons) are subtracted for use in existing generating plants, then 31.6 million tons (28.7 million metric tons) would be available for gasification or transport. This would allow the production of approximately 1,250 million cubic feet (35.4 million m³) of gas per day, with

3. A report by Arthur D. Little, Inc., to the Federal Energy Administration produced the lowest figure; it stated that 6 to 14.7 gallons of water per ton were required. The U.S. Department of the Interior, in Water for Energy in the Northern Great Plains Area, (1975) states in Table 4-3 that production in 1980 in Wyoming of 35 million tons will require 28,400 acre-feet; of 64.2 million tons in Montana will require 78,800 acre-feet; of 59 million tons in North Dakota will require 100,000 acre-feet. These figures were used to produce the range in the text.

4. Freudenthal, D.D.; Ricciardelli, Peter; and York, M.N. Coal Development Alternatives--An Assessment of Water Use and Economic Implications. Wyoming Department of Economic Planning and Development, (1974).

consumptive use of up to 130,000 acre-feet (160 million m³) of water per year⁵, depending on cooling processes; consumptive use could be only about 1/10 this level if once-through cooling were used, but about 200 percent of the river's annual flow would have to pass through the plant or plants.

Railroads are used at present to export coal from the area; this method of transport would not be affected by river designation. If, however, the remaining 31.6 million tons (28.7 million metric tons) per year were exported by slurry pipeline, and none of the water used to transport the coal were returned to the Yampa basin, there would be consumptive use of approximately 23,250 acre-feet (28.7 million m³) of water per year in slurring the coal out of the basin.⁶

Maximum water use would occur under the following conditions: if 35 million tons were mined per year; if existing plants used about 12,000 acre-feet (14.8 million m³); if about 63,000 acre-feet (77.6 million m³) were used for processing and reclamation, including irrigating reclaimed land; and if all the coal not used in existing thermal generating plants were used in gasification plants. Water usage for this combination of factors would total about 200,000 acre-feet per year (247 million m³). This combination of factors is unlikely, and represents the higher limit of possible water demand. More likely is a mix of coal use for thermal generation and gasification; any such combination would use less than 200,000 acre-feet (247 million m³) per year.

5. The Department of Energy states that actual water use for coal gasification could be less than half this amount in 2000, even under an accelerated-growth scenario. This conclusion is based on studies by the Water Resources Council.

6. The figures in this and the next paragraph were generated using data from Steele, op. cit., pp. 7-10.

The flow of the Yampa river in the study area is about 1.6 million acre-feet per year (1.96 billion m³); the maximal water use figure represents about 13 percent of the annual flow. If depletions of this or lesser magnitude were found by the Secretary of the Interior to unreasonably diminish the values for which the Yampa River had been designated to the National Wild and Scenic River System, then preventing or modifying the depletions would be an effect of this proposal.

Another possible use of Yampa River water would be the production of shale oil. The main deposits, as discussed in chapter II, are in the basin of the White River. There are several estimates of the amount of water necessary to support a 1-million-barrel-a-day production ranging from 151,000 to 250,000 acre-feet (186-308 million m³) a year.⁷ Since the White River, at the station nearest the main development area (the station is 10 miles or 16 km west of Meeker) has an average annual flow of approximately 460,000 acre-feet (500 million m³), it seems probable that the river closest to the development will be used to supply it. However, if the industry overcomes its technical problems and if it is expanded to double or triple the current maximum projected size, designation of the Yampa River might act to prohibit substantial trans-basin diversions to the White, if the Secretary of the Interior finds such diversions would unreasonably diminish the values for which the downstream segment of the Yampa had been designated.

As stated in Chapter II, there are uranium resources involving up to 44 million pounds (20 million kg) of uranium oxide in the area

7. Report by Little, Inc., op. cit., and unpublished data by Colorado State University. The Department of Energy's studies by the Water Resource Council suggest the higher figure would be sufficient to support a 1.8 million-barrel-a-day industry, including ancillary development.

upstream from the study area. While some exploration activity is going on, the only active facility in the area is the heap-leaching mill at Maybell, operated by Union Carbide. Unless new discoveries of higher-grade ore are made, the company plans to discontinue its operations in 1982 when it has extracted the available ores from tailings. This facility consumes 18 to 24 acre-feet (22,000-30,000 m³) per year from the Yampa River, as a replacement for evaporation losses incurred in concentrating the ore;⁸ it does not discharge to the river. Since the ores of the area are relatively low-grade, any increase in mining will require concentration before the ores are transported, to reduce transportation costs.

Thus, unless a major discovery of high-grade uranium is made, it seems probable that future operations in the area will be of the same type and magnitude as the present one. It was therefore considered that impacts of river designation on water needed for uranium mining and processing upstream from the study area would be minimal.

Impacts on Mining Resulting from Mining-Caused Changes in Water Quality

The study team considered that any limitations on effluent discharges from the upstream mining operations would be the result of existing water quality standards and efforts to protect the endangered species, rather than of this proposal.

8. Conversation with Bob Beverely, Union Carbide Grand Junction Office, March 6, 1979.

Summary--Indirect Impacts on Mining

Implementation of the proposal could result in precluding or modifying upstream water resource projects, which in turn could eliminate hydropower and water that might be needed for mineral production. There probably will be a small impact on mining due to power-price differentials. Sufficient power should be available from other sources, but comparative cost data are not available.

There could be an impact on the volume of water required for mineral production, reclamation, and transportation. This need could represent up to 13 percent of the average annual flow of the Yampa River; however, one quarter to one half this amount is more likely. Whether this depletion would represent "a direct and adverse effect on the values for which the river might be designated" would have to be determined by the Secretary of the Interior at the time the water projects are actually proposed and detailed plans are made available.

In summary, if the water is not available from the potential water projects, it is unlikely that mineral production would be limited. However, production and transportation processes might have to be modified and other sources of water sought. This would tend to increase costs of mineral production by an unknown but probably not substantial amount.

WATER RESOURCES IMPACTS

Flows Impact

Designation of the river segments will tend to preserve the existing flow patterns of the two rivers to the extent that present flows are an inextricable part of the values which caused the river to be designated to the National Wild and Scenic River System.

Water Quality Impacts

In general, water quality will be preserved by existing laws and regulations, rather than by this proposal. The proposal will have a positive impact on water quality through calling for continuing monitoring and other efforts to see that present water quality levels do not decline. This will be covered in the cooperative management plan.

Implementation of the proposed action will result in a minor increase in suspended sediments and litter in the Green River resulting from a small increase in recreation use (over the increase expected with a continuation of present management), and from additional recreation developments planned in segments A and B. In part this will stem from a slight increase in soil compaction and loss, and damage to vegetation, as mentioned earlier. Increases in suspended sediment in the Green River resulting from increased recreation use and development will not be noticeable, since below Red Creek the river gradually gathers sediment, and periodically carries a natural high suspended sediment load due to flash floods.

The increased recreation use in segment A will cause a minor increase in problems with human waste disposal. These problems would be confined to popular stopping points. Beneficial impacts on water quality are expected from construction and rehabilitation of sanitary facilities in segments A and B as a part of the recreation improvements entailed by the proposal; these improvements will tend to cancel the negative impacts stated above. Screening by vegetation will also tend to retard and absorb runoff, thus lessening turbidity caused by construction and recreation use.

Impacts on Corridor Development Projects

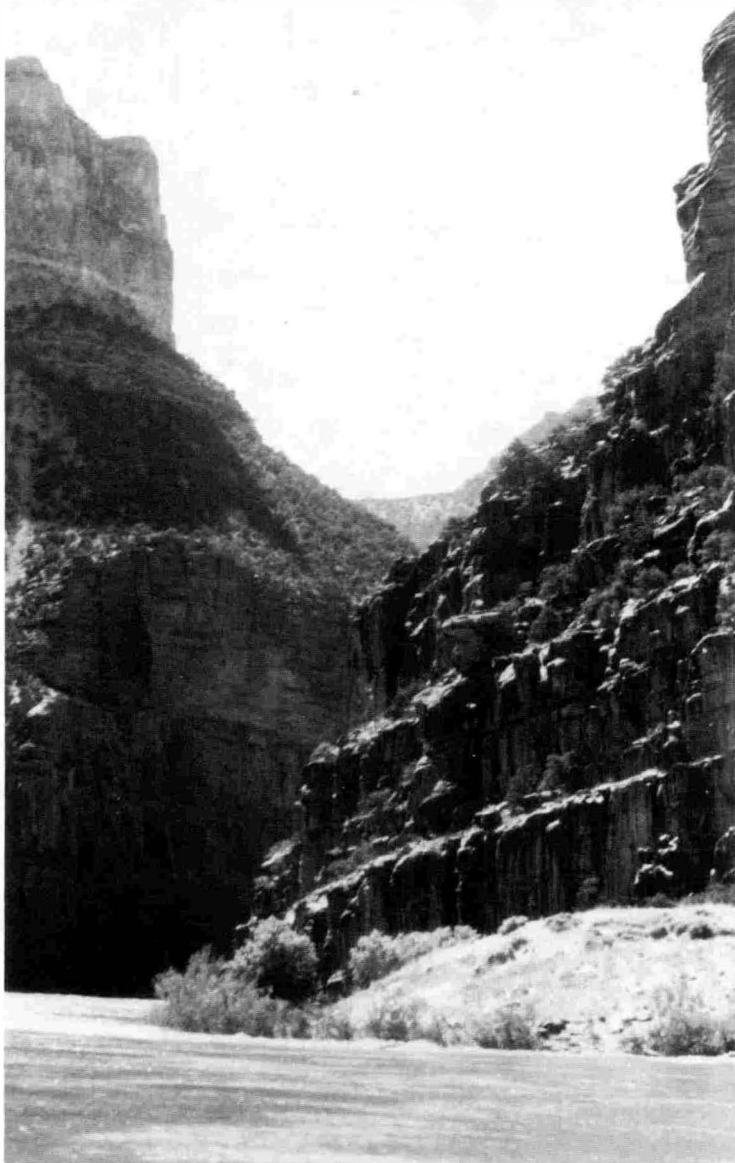
Implementation of the proposal will affect any water projects proposed in the river corridor, and perhaps those upstream. Those in the corridor could involve three now inactive Water and Power Resources Service development sites: Lily Park Dam on the Yampa, Echo Park and Split Mountain Dams on the Green. Public controversy essentially killed these projects in the 1950s; the powersite and reclamation withdrawals for them have been revoked. Since these projects are considered "dead," no impact on them by this proposal is anticipated.

The possible reregulating reservoir hydropower projects on segment A of the Green, described in chapter II, will not be built if the rivers are designated to the system; however, these projects have not been proposed for detailed study and will probably not be built in any event.

Impacts on Upstream Development Projects

Because of the barrier effect of Flaming Gorge Dam on the Green River, no impacts of the proposed action on upstream water development projects on this river are foreseen. This also applies to other projects that might depend on the Green River for water supply or hydropower.

Several or more of the approximately 30 Yampa Basin water resource development projects, identified and discussed in chapter II, could be impacted by this proposal. Designation of the Yampa may require the Secretary of the Interior to determine if any upstream project requiring federal licensing or assistance will have a direct and adverse effect on, or unreasonably diminish, the values for which such river was established. If so, no federal assistance



Designation of the river corridors would preclude federal licensing or assistance to water projects in the monument. Just below this point in Whirlpool Canyon was the site of Echo Park Dam, a Bureau of Reclamation structure that was the focus of national controversy in the 1950s. The dam would have backed water to the head of segments C and D. HCRS

would be provided through loan, grant, or license unless the project(s) in question can be modified to eliminate significant adverse impacts. Precluding or modifying these projects would then be an impact of this proposal.

The general, mostly undetailed information available to the study team about the projects planned upstream did not permit the kind of specific, case-by-case evaluation of which project, or combination of projects, would result in significant adverse impacts on the values for which the river was designated. That determination, if required, will have to be made by the Secretary of the Interior on the basis of more detailed project plans, when the projects are actually proposed and permits or licenses are sought from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Thus, designation of the river to the National Wild and Scenic River System could affect the generation of up to 300,000,000 kwh/year or more of potential power. Up to 600,000 acre-feet (740 million m³) or more of irrigation, municipal, and industrial water development could be developed on the Yampa, under the terms of Article 13 of the Upper Colorado River Compact. It is improbable that amounts this large would be developed. Due to conflicts with other planned developments authorized by the Colorado River Storage Project Act on other tributaries of the Colorado within the state of Colorado, the amounts of future consumptive use that might take place on the Yampa and that therefore might be prevented by this proposal will be considerably smaller. This maximum consumptive use development potential is estimated to be 300,000 acre-feet per year or less.

It should be noted that the prohibition of section 7(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act on federal assistance applies only to those projects requiring federal licensing or assistance, and only to those projects found to have a direct and adverse affect on, or

unreasonably diminish, the values for which the river were designated; others are unaffected. Projects could still be constructed if modified to eliminate their adverse impact. In conclusion, designation of the Yampa river to the national wild and scenic rivers system could limit or modify but would probably not eliminate additional upstream water development.

AIR QUALITY IMPACTS

The proposal will have essentially no effect on air quality classification for this area because the corridor lies in management units which are Class II floor areas, i.e., areas which cannot be reassigned to Class III (maximum permissible degradation). The Fish and Wildlife Service has requested reassignment to Class I for the Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge, and a task force for the Department of the Interior, acting under section 164 (d) of the Clean Air Act (P.L. 95-95) as amended in 1977, has requested Class I status for Dinosaur National Monument. The Forest Service has not taken a position on the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area. Congress may approve these requests or remand them to the affected states. What action will be taken by Congress or the states cannot be predicted, but significant degradation of the regional air quality under either a Class I or II designation is unlikely.

As discussed below under transportation impacts, designation will probably prevent routing the Maybell, Colorado to Dutch John highway through any part of the corridor it does not now occupy. By displacing this route to a location out of the corridor, increased auto emissions from use of the highway will take place elsewhere, a beneficial impact of unknown but probably small proportion. Construction of recreational facilities in the corridor will cause small, temporary increases in fugitive dust and in air pollution from heavy equipment use.

Under this proposed action the same facilities will be constructed in Browns Park as will be developed if the proposal is not implemented; an approximate 6-fold increase in use (from about 7,500 recreation days to about 43,000 recreation days) will take place in the refuge, with concomitant increases in traffic, but the impacts are not attributable to this proposal. Location of an unknown amount of new access roads out of the river corridor would decrease vehicular travel in segment B by concentrating it around existing access points. This would have the effect of reducing auto emissions and fugitive dust. This effect is expected to be minor. The expected 2 percent increase in recreation that will take place corridor-wide will cause proportionate deleterious impacts on air quality.

FISH AND WILDLIFE IMPACTS

By 1990, implementation of the proposal is expected to result in about a 30 percent increase in the number of floaters and fishermen in segments A and B, over the use that would result without designation, i.e. from about 12,500 recreation days to about 16,100. The increase in fishing pressure will result in some reduction in fishing quality and catch-rate (mostly for rainbow trout) in these reaches. The increased use in segment A and the upper part of segment B will also result in minor increases in disturbance to wildlife, mostly big game, in the river corridor. Partly balancing these impacts will be the protection against development which the proposal gives to crucial big game winter range, by its probable routing of the Maybell-Dutch John highway out of the corridor.

The most significant impact on wildlife in the corridor will be a minor increase in disturbance to nesting waterfowl during the spring in Utah's Browns Park Waterfowl Management Area and the Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge in Colorado, but since no

increases in recreation use over that which would take place without designation are expected through the two wildlife areas, this impact is not attributable to the proposed action. Other expected impacts include a minor loss of streamside and island small game habitat resulting from the losses of vegetation cited earlier; about 15 acres (6 ha) of habitat would be involved. At the Bridge Hollow Campground site, there will be a disturbance of about 10 acres (4 ha) during and after development (due mostly to heavier use) that will decrease the numbers of wildlife in that immediate area.

Decreasing the mileage of new access roads in the corridor of segment B will have a generally positive effect on fish and wildlife. As compared to the No Action Alternative (see chapter XI), there will be less disturbance of wildlife by vehicles, and fewer road kills.

Screening measures, if implemented, would slightly increase the habitat for brush and tree-dwelling species, i.e., lazuli buntings, warblers, other songbirds, squirrels, and predators such as coopers hawk and prairie falcon. These improvements would take place on an unknown acreage, probably less than 100 (40 ha), so the net effect would be minor.

Since the protection of habitat and species is mainly an effect of existing management, regulations, and statutes, the impact of the proposal will be slight. It will add another layer of legal protection for the fish and wildlife of the corridor, since they are among the values which qualify the river for addition to the system.

If this proposal precludes the construction of the Juniper-Cross Mountain project, approximately 20,000 acres (8,000 ha) of big game winter range upstream will not be inundated. An unknown amount of waterfowl habitat on the reservoirs would not be created.

ENDANGERED SPECIES IMPACTS

This proposed action will probably aid the endangered fish species by retaining more or less natural Yampa River flows, if the upstream projects that would modify these flows are found by the Secretary of the Interior to diminish the values for which the river is designated.

If projects are precluded or modified, this proposal will also act to preserve wintering habitat for bald eagles in the upstream project area, and possible peregrine habitat in the Cross Mountain area. It will add another layer of protection for existing raptor habitat in the monument. If presently occupied or future peregrine nests are identified in the study area (segments C and D are the most likely areas), there are no impacts foreseen, since no increases in recreational use of this area are envisioned under the proposal, and the proposal will ensure that any additional protection efforts are covered in the cooperative management plan. The plan is expected to have no effect on the black-footed ferret, whose presence in the area is not established. See the biological opinion in appendix B and the discussion of the No Action Alternative in chapter XI.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS

Social Impacts

The proposal will preserve the quality and diversity of the recreation experience in the study area. The additional protection and interpretation of cultural resources to be provided in segment B will enhance recreational values. Increased use will diminish solitude. The improved water quality and sanitary facilities will generate beneficial health effects. Additional signage will improve recreation safety. No other substantial effects on the social environment are expected.

Economic Impacts

Designation of the Green and Yampa as National Wild and Scenic Rivers will result in increased recreationist expenditures in the region of approximately \$60,000 annually by 1990. This increase represents about 3 percent of total expected recreationist expenditures in 1990 (about \$1,760,000). Recreation developments will cost \$912,650. An increase of \$30,000 for annual administration, operation, and management costs, including a 25-year sinking fund, will be required to accommodate increased recreation use. The increased on-site recreationist expenditures which result from this alternative will contribute \$27,000 annually to the regional economy. This impact will be felt mainly in communities in the general vicinity, particularly Craig, Vernal, and Dutch John. Among those benefitting will be raft and tackle outfitters in the Dutch John area.

Should implementation of the proposed action preclude or modify the development of major upstream water development projects, there would be unknown potential losses to the regional economy probably amounting to as much as \$7.5 million dollars per year on a continuing basis; construction funds not expended might involve \$150-200 million or more. The potential income might be generated through hydropower production at the Juniper-Cross Mountain sites, and benefits from recreation use of project waters. An unknown amount of hydropower, irrigation, transbasin diversion, increased cropping, and construction of water development facilities could be precluded at other project sites for which little or no information was available.

Transportation Impacts

Implementation of the proposal will result in approximately a two percent increase in traffic using the Maybell to Dutch John road

(Colorado and Utah), and, proportionally, a somewhat greater amount of use of several access roads from this route to the river in segments A and B, over that expected without designation. Traffic on the Crouse Canyon road between the upper end of the Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge (at Swinging Bridge) and Vernal will also increase. Increases in traffic on other roads and highways in the region resulting from designation will be insignificant.

As described earlier, Daggett County has proposed to reconstruct, surface, and partially relocate the Utah portion of the Maybell, Colorado to Dutch John road. Several relocation routes that have been considered would place the road in the visual corridor of the river in the lower part of segment A and the upper part of segment B (Red Creek to Jesse Ewing Canyon). One of these alternatives would place several additional miles of road in the river corridor of the upper part of segment B. If this portion of the Green River is designated, further intrusion of the road on the river corridor will probably be prohibited unless no feasible alternative exists. This could increase construction costs and the route distance somewhat.

Recreation Impacts

The expected two percent increase in recreation use (see table VIII-1) in segments A and B that would result from implementation of the proposal will cause small increases in crowding, user conflicts, and litter. It also will result in an estimated increase in Forest Service/Bureau of Land Management operation and maintenance costs of about \$12,000 per year, according to agency estimates.

The increased use of the popular segment A could result in the eventual imposition of user limits by the Forest Service. This in

turn will require additional Forest Service seasonal personnel and result in less user freedom and slightly increased use of the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area reservoir area, but this impact is expected to take place after 1990. In segments C and D in Dinosaur National Monument, where strict user limits are in effect, use is not expected to increase. However, designation is expected to increase regional (and even national) focus on the Green and Yampa, which will result in an increase in demand for floating both rivers. This will result in a small increase in time and paperwork for National Park Service personnel to respond to and process requests for information and river use permits, and a higher percentage of disappointment for those applying for permits.

This alternative would tend to preserve the recreation environment with less change than the No Action Alternative and thus, by maintaining solitude in some portions of segment B, retain the widest spectrum of recreation use. In particular, wildlife viewing would probably be improved as compared with that alternative. Hunting would be of the same or better quality, but due to the slightly inhibited access, hunter success might be slightly less.

If upstream reservoirs on the Yampa are prevented or modified by this alternative, an unknown amount of flatwater recreation will not be available or take place upstream from the study area.⁹

9. Project plans furnished by the Colorado River Water Conservation District for the Juniper-Cross Mountain sites contained no recreation day estimates, but did state the projects would fulfill needs identified in the Colorado SCORP for 662 acres (260 ha) for power-boating/water skiing; 1,076 acres (430 ha) for lake swimming; 325 acres (130 ha) for slow power boating; for Region II of Colorado in 1990. Campsites and picnic areas would alleviate current shortages of 628,500 activity days of camping and 628,504 activity days of picnicking.

Table VIII-1
Present and Projected Recreation Use and Impact of the Proposed Action
on Projected Use In Recreation Days

River Segment	Activity	Present Use (1976)	Projected Use Existing Management (1990)	Projected Use Wild River Proposal (1990)	Impact of Wild River Proposal (1990)
Segment A -					
(Spillway to Little Hole)					
	Boating	10,100	10,100	10,100	
	Camping	9,300	9,300	9,650	300
	Picnicking	200	200	200	
	Waterfowl Hunting	200	200	200	
	Fishing	4,200	4,200	4,200	
	Walking	2,400	2,400	2,400	
(Little Hole to Indian Crossing)					
	Camping/Shore Fishing	1,650	1,650	2,950	1,300
	Fishing Floaters ¹	800	960	3,060	2,100
	TOTAL - SEGMENT A -	28,930	29,010	32,760	3,750
Segment B -					
(Indian Crossing to Gates of Lodore)					
	Boating	280	11,790	11,790	
	Camping	2,540	19,040	19,040	
	Waterfowl Hunting	630	5,400	5,400	
	Shore Fishing	400	500	500	
	Boat Fishing	3,600	4,500	4,500	
	Deer Hunting	70	600	600	
	Other	30	1,690	1,690	
	TOTAL - SEGMENT B -	7,550	43,520	43,520	0
Segment C -					
(Gates of Lodore to Southern Boundary Dinosaur National Monument)					
	Day River Use	24,440	24,440	24,440	
	Floaters Camping	13,080	13,080	13,080	
	Other Camping	42,620	42,620	42,620	
	TOTAL - SEGMENT C -	80,140	80,140	80,140	0
Segment D -					
(Yampa River in Dinosaur National Monument)					
	Day River Use	10,720	10,720	10,720	
	Floaters Camping	8,370	8,370	8,370	
	Other Camping	2,750	2,750	2,750	
	TOTAL - SEGMENT D -	21,840	21,840	21,840	0
	GRAND TOTAL - ALL SEGMENTS -	138,460	174,510	178,260	3,750

1. A portion of this increase will actually occur in the upper portion of Segment B.

Cultural Resources Impacts

Segment A contains no known significant cultural resources so impacts on such sites cannot be projected.

The Browns Park segment contains a number of old cabins, various ranch structures and implements, and other historical remnants dating from the 1830s to the 1930s, several of which are on or have been nominated for the National Register of Historic Places. Generally, these sites are either relatively well preserved and protected or are unknown and mostly untouched by the general public (i.e., buried artifacts). However, there are several old cabin and outbuilding sites not on the National Register that have been deteriorating or damaged due to vandalism, removal of materials for other use, and general weathering and slumping. Protective and stabilizing efforts have mostly been inadequate. The proposal and management agency plans call for increased stabilization, protection and interpretation of these sites. Despite this, an increase in vandalism and theft may take place; this is expected to be proportional to the two percent increase in use caused by the proposal. There may be some detrimental impact to the National Register sites, but it is expected to be very minor. If the location of new access roads in the corridor in segment B is minimized by this alternative, lessened access will tend to have a positive effect as compared with the No Action Alternative.

Designation will result in greater public knowledge of the resources in segments C and D (Dinosaur National Monument), though not in increased use. Greater interest may lead to more frequent visits resulting in a small additional amount of vandalism and removal of archeological materials from some of the sites, which include petroglyphs, rock art, Indian occupancy and storage sites, remnants of Indian artifacts, one Indian-used cave, and several historical sites.

Since implementation of the proposal could affect cultural properties on or eligible for the National Register, those parts of the area not yet adequately investigated will be surveyed to locate all extant cultural resources as a part of the agencies' management planning. Cultural resources located at that time will be evaluated against the criteria for inclusion in the National Register and nominated to the Register if appropriate. At that time an evaluation of the proposal's effect on included or nominated cultural resources sites will be made, and comments sought from the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation pursuant to the regulations entitled "Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties" (36 CFR Part 800).

OTHER IMPACTS

Future powerlines, natural gas pipelines, gas production facilities, and other utility developments may have to be located in existing utility corridors, placed underground, or rerouted and kept completely out of all or portions of the river corridor. This will be given further consideration during management planning, and decided when new routings are proposed.

C H A P T E R I X

MITIGATING MEASURES IN THE PROPOSED ACTION AND UNAVOIDABLE ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

MITIGATING MEASURES

In accordance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, a cooperative management plan will be completed after the designation of the Green and Yampa Rivers as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. This plan will include the following measures to mitigate adverse impacts.

To prevent any degradation of the values for which the Green and Yampa Rivers were designated, the amounts and types of recreational use in the river areas will be restricted to the affected environments' carrying capacity.

To reduce the potential for water and land pollution, vault toilets will be provided at all developed recreation sites that are accessible by automobiles. Any new sanitary facilities needed will be developed only after a careful study has been made to identify locations which have the least potential for soil compaction, erosion, and visual impact.

To minimize aesthetic impacts, all areas disturbed by development work at recreational sites will be restored to their original contours and re-vegetated with native species. The toilets now in use at river campgrounds in Dinosaur National Monument will be replaced by rustic structures that better conform to a wilderness setting.

To reduce the potential for litter problems, a program of "carrying out what you take in" will be stressed. If this program proves ineffective, more restrictive measures will be initiated.

To reduce the threat of fire, protective measures such as requiring firepans, limiting the use of open fires, and designating specific areas where open fires are permissible during periods of high fire risk will be instituted.

To provide for public safety and for the prevention of noise, air, and water pollution, soil and vegetation damage, wildlife harassment, and user conflicts, specific regulations concerning the use of aircraft, snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, and other vehicles will be enforced. Four-wheel drive and cycle roads in the vicinity of the river areas either will be closed or improved to reduce the dust and other problems that would result from increases in vehicular traffic.

To preserve the scenic qualities of the area, standards for assuring protection of the existing environment within the study area will be developed. This will be accomplished by the acquisition of scenic easements requiring that all structures be harmonious with the natural setting, frontage setbacks, and permits from the managing agency to cut trees or clear natural vegetation.

All historic and archaeological sites will be surveyed, identified, and protected in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Executive Order 11593, and in accordance with the regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (36 CFR, Part 800). A combination of use limitations, protection and structure stabilization measures, and education/interpretation activities will be developed in consultation with the Advisory Council and the Historic Preservation Officers of Colorado and

Utah, in order to mitigate potential adverse effects on cultural and historic resources. In addition, the locations of particularly sensitive sites will be kept confidential.

Measures will be taken to protect the endangered American peregrine falcon, bald eagle, Colorado River squawfish, humpback chub and other significant wildlife species and to preserve their associated habitat. This may include curtailing human activity in areas that may be identified as critical habitat and in areas used by these species for breeding and rearing of their young.

To mitigate damage to vegetation, restrictions on using live trees for firewood will be imposed. Using standing dead trees will also be forbidden, so as to preserve perches for eagles and other birds. Proximity will be encouraged and educational signing will also be used where necessary.

UNAVOIDABLE ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Designation of the Green and Yampa Rivers as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System will cause some minor unavoidable adverse environmental impacts in the river corridor.

The minor increases in erosion, litter, and air, water, and noise pollution associated with development and improvement of recreation sites and increased visitation to the area will not be fully mitigated. However, these will not be significant impacts.

Future water resource development within the Yampa Basin that would unreasonably diminish existing scenic, recreational, and fish and wildlife values within the study area would be foregone. Since designation is revocable by Congress, the development of hydropower, irrigation, municipal and industrial water, and other benefits associated with these projects would be deferred.

Entry, sale, or other disposition of public lands within the corridor would be prohibited. However, the impacts of this constraint would be minor or nonexistent since such disposition is not expected by any agency. Where scenic easements are obtained, some future options for residential or commercial development of private lands along the Green will be foregone by owners.

Soils, shrubs and grasses, and associated wildlife habitat would be adversely affected during the construction and improvement of recreation facilities within segments A and B. These impacts should be largely eliminated after reseeding, replanting, and a period of stabilization.

Although soil compaction problems and minor adverse effects on fragile elements of the ecosystem, such as mosses, lichens, and wild flowers, may occur in areas of increased use, these impacts will probably not be significant. Despite more intensive management in segments A and B, a small loss of trees and tree limbs (mostly to firewood gatherers) is expected.

Even though management policies will be implemented to protect endangered wildlife, the potential for adverse impact exists. However, since most human use will occur outside breeding and rearing seasons and at limited locations, any unavoidable adverse impacts would probably be minor. Some small decreases in fishermen success, wildlife viewing opportunities, and waterfowl production within the two special management areas can be expected. Although historic and archeologic sites are already protected under existing federal laws and site protection will be addressed by the river management plan, a limited amount of vandalism, damage or removal of materials at these sites would probably accompany increased recreational use.

The threat of forest fire will increase in proportion to the number of people in the area. This threat cannot be fully mitigated. Assuming a more feasible and prudent realignment alternative exists, designation of the Green and Yampa as components of the Wild and Scenic River System will probably not permit the construction of additional roadway for the proposed Maybell-Dutch John road realignment in the visual corridor of segments A and B. This may result in slightly higher road construction costs; other unavoidable impacts may include increased travel time and costs to motorists.

CHAPTER X

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SHORT-TERM USE OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY; AND IRREVERSIBLE OR IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES WHICH WOULD BE INVOLVED IN THE PROPOSED ACTION

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SHORT-TERM USE OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

Existing short-term uses of the environment would remain substantially unaltered since inclusion of the Yampa and Green Rivers in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System would ensure preservation of their free-flowing conditions and existing scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural and other natural values.

The Wild and Scenic Rivers management plan is expected to prohibit or sharply limit mining, thus short-term economic gains to be made from the extraction of mineral resources in the corridor will be foregone. Designation will prohibit the removal of any undiscovered mineral resources in the "wild" segments. Since the entire length of the rivers is at present withdrawn from mineral entry, such gains are unlikely anyway. If designation affects upstream mineral development adversely, as discussed in chapters VIII and XI, an unquantifiable but probably limited amount of short-term gain will be lost.

Designation of the Green River in Red Canyon, Browns Park, and Dinosaur National Monument, as well as the Yampa River in the monument, will enhance the areas' long-term productivity for human

enjoyment and ecological diversity. This long-term productivity will be ensured by the maintenance of free-flowing river environments and associated natural values for future generations. Long-term economic productivity would not be affected by inclusion of the rivers in the National System except as it might hinder or halt upstream water resource development in the Yampa Basin. Since designation can be abrogated by Congress if it is in the national interest to do so, such development is deferred rather than precluded by the proposed action.

IRREVERSIBLE OR IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

Since no major changes to the existing environment are planned as part of the proposal, no resources would be irreversibly or irretrievably committed. Congress could modify or reverse this designation at any time if future national priorities dictate the need to do so.

CHAPTER XI

ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES AND THEIR IMPACTS

In 1971 the Water Resources Council developed and tested an analytical procedure for the generation and evaluation of alternative plans for water and related land resource uses. The adopted process, "Principles and Standards for Planning Water and Related Land Resources," was published in the Federal Register, Volume 38, Number 174, on September 10, 1973, as an Executive Order. Since wild and scenic rivers studies are a form of water resource planning, they must comply with Principles and Standards. This chapter presents the results of the Principles and Standards Analysis for six alternative plans for the Yampa and Green River segments found eligible for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. For further description of this analysis, see appendix A.

PROCEDURE AND PURPOSE

The analysis was conducted to provide a basis for recommendations on including or excluding eligible study segments of the Yampa and Green Rivers in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, by comparing the effects of each alternative plan. Comparison of alternative plans is accomplished by analysis and measurement of the advantages and disadvantages of each plan in a system of four accounts. These accounts, or general categories of effects, are national economic development, environmental quality, regional development, and social well-being. The effects in these four accounts are then compared to see how the various plans can be improved to achieve the particular purpose for which each plan is

intended. By comparing these modified plans to each other, and to the No Action Alternative (a projection of what is expected to happen in the area if the rivers are not designated and current management is continued), a recommended plan is prepared to optimize total environmental and economic contributions resulting from a proposal. These comparisons are summarized in tables XI-2 through 5 at the close of this chapter.

The procedure is designed to present to decision makers a range of alternative plans, together with a display of all their significant effects and interrelationships.

ALTERNATIVES

Each of the following alternatives, displayed in Table XI-1, is presented by showing the projected future effects of its having been chosen for implementation. Taking "no action," i.e. continuing present management, is also an option which can be chosen after the completion of this study. The effects and impacts of each alternative are those which differ from the effects and impacts of the No Action Alternative; the effects of the No Action Alternative in turn are projected changes from the present state of affairs in the area.

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

The effects of selecting this alternative are presented both as a standard of reference to which alternatives can be compared, and as an action which can be chosen. The plan portrays the effects likely to occur in the study area if no action is taken to designate the Green and Yampa Rivers and current management continues; it thus represents the probable future environment in the area.

Upstream from the study area, intensive mineral development would take place, particularly of coal. The population boom now being experienced in western Colorado would continue, in part causing an increase in pressure on the recreational resources of the study area. There would be interest in developing a number of upstream dams on the Yampa River and its tributaries. The development of these projects would be impacted by several factors:

- (1) As discussed in chapter II, Colorado and Wyoming may put their allotment of compact water to use on other tributaries of the Colorado system, making any large increase in consumptive use impossible in the Yampa basin, unless runoff increases.
- (2) The perfection of the reserved water right for Dinosaur Monument, with a priority date senior to the storage rights identified on table II-4, could make it uneconomical to develop the Yampa upstream, depending on the flows and times of flow requested by the United States and granted by the courts.
- (3) Although specific studies to determine the requirements of the endangered fish in the Yampa and Green River basins have not been completed, most of the evidence to date indicates that the construction and operation of large reservoirs has adversely affected these fish. The Yampa has been identified as one of the most important rivers for the survival of the endemic endangered fish.^{1,2} Thus, it must be assumed that

1. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Colorado Squawfish Recovery Plan. Washington, D.C. (1978) pps. 6-8.

2. Holden, P.B., and Stalnaker, C.B. "Distribution of Fishes in the Dolores and Yampa River Systems of the Upper Colorado River Basin," in Southwestern Naturalist 91(4), pp. 403-412, cited on p.4 of the Recovery Plan.

unless exempted or studies show contrary results, some of the projects could be precluded or have their operation modified by the Endangered Species Act.

(4) The lower reservoir site for the Juniper-Cross Mountain project has been identified by the BLM as part of a potential wilderness study area. Should the site be designated a wilderness area after study, the Cross Mountain portion of the project might not be approved for construction; this could require substantial alterations in Juniper Reservoir and its operation and might make the project uneconomical.

If constructed, these projects--in particular, the Juniper-Cross Mountain project--would have a substantial positive local economic impact during construction, mostly in the Craig area. Afterward, there would be some continuing contributions to the tourism economy, which would be countered by a drop in the use of the Yampa River for whitewater recreation. Given the variety of technical and political uncertainties surrounding the construction of these projects, it was not possible to assume either that they would or would not be constructed; appropriate sections of the statement reflect this.

The study team assumed that current management and public activities in the river area would continue without substantial changes in direction or focus. Water and air quality would continue to be high, due to existing regulations. Recreation will continue to be a major resource use. In 1976 a total of approximately 139,000 recreation days³ of use were reported in the 138-mile (222.2 km)

3. A recreation day is defined as an individual's participation in recreation activities for a reasonable portion or all of a 24-hour period. All recreation use and values thereof are given for recreation days in this analysis.

Table XI-1
Classification Alternatives, Yampa and Green Rivers

Segment	River	Miles (km)	No Action	NED Alternative ¹	EQ Alternative 1 ²	EQ Alternative 2 ³	EQ Alternative 3 ⁴
A Flaming Gorge Dam to Green Indian Crossing boat ramp (Red Canyon)		15 (24.6 km)	No classification	No classification	Scenic	Scenic	No classification
B Indian Crossing boat ramp to Gates of Lodore in Dinosaur National Monument (Browns Park)	Green	32 (51.50 km)	No classification	No classification	Scenic	Scenic	No classification
C Gates of Lodore in Dinosaur National Monument to southern boundary of monument, 0.7 miles (1.1 km) south of Split Mtn. Landing (Lodore-Split Mtn. Canyons)	Green	44 (70.8 km)	No classification	No classification	Wild	Wild	No classification
D Yampa River Within Dinosaur National Monument (Yampa River Canyons)	Yampa	47 (75.7 km)	No classification	No classification	Wild	No classification	Wild

-
1. National Economic Development option, which is based on increased recreational development and use.
 2. This alternative, which entails designation and appropriate classification of all studied segments, is the proposed action.
 3. This alternative entails designation and appropriate classification of the Green River segments only.
 4. This alternative entails designation and appropriate classification of the Yampa River segment only.

visual corridor of river segments A, B, C, and D. Under the No Action Alternative, it is projected that recreational use of the river corridor will be approximately 175,000 recreation days by 1990. Camping, wildfowl hunting, and floating will probably constitute the majority of the increase in participation.

Most future recreation development will take place in the Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge portion of segment B. In the master plan for management of the refuge, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposes to rehabilitate two boat ramps, construct one new boat ramp, construct a mini-interpretation center, relocate the headquarters, rehabilitate two campgrounds, develop a new campground, and develop about 50 miles (80 km) of new access roads. Other developments planned for the refuge include additional riverside dikes and pumps for the creation of new marsh areas.

Although they plan no new major developments, the National Park Service and Bureau of Land Management will continue to focus on providing a quality recreation experience as a major management objective for the areas they administer. The Forest Service plans some rehabilitation of the Little Hole boat ramp; and realignment and paving of the Little Hole access road.

Choosing this alternative is expected to have the following impacts:

Land Use Impacts

If construction of certain upstream projects, including the Juniper-Cross Mountain Project, were to be precluded or modified under this alternative, there would be no effect on agriculture as currently practiced in the areas upstream from the study area. The development of future irrigated lands, however, would not take

place. The fertility of any new irrigated lands in the area under this project is unknown.

If the projects were constructed under this alternative, a wilderness designation for the Cross Mountain wilderness study area would probably be precluded. In addition, the Juniper Cross Mountain project will inundate approximately 4,500 acres of irrigated land (15 percent of the total in Moffat County). The present version of the project contains no facilities for future delivery of irrigation water to replacement lands. Such facilities could be added in the design process, or after the project were complete, but no predictions can be made at present.

Conversely, if the construction of the projects is precluded under this alternative, a wilderness designation for Cross Mountain Canyon would not be precluded, assuming the area is found to qualify.

Land uses in the corridor are expected to remain virtually unchanged, with the exception of grazing in Dinosaur National Monument, which will be gradually eliminated. The 160-acre (65 ha) Mantle Ranch on the Yampa will eventually be obtained by the monument, but no prediction of when it will can be made. When it does, plans call for preserving the buildings as exhibits and allowing the fields to revert to natural vegetation. It is expected that the two private properties in the corridor in segment B will not be subdivided, and will continue to be used for grazing, agriculture and personal residence.

Paving the Little Hole Access Road in segment A, described above, will impact about 5 acres (2 ha) of land in the corridor (most of the aligning and pavement work is not within the corridor).

Improvements described above for the refuge will alter the use of the land on an unknown acreage, estimated to be less than 40 (16 ha) for the campgrounds, headquarters and boat ramp. Development of about 50 miles (80 km) of new access roads will alter approximately 360 acres (145 ha) of land in the immediate vicinity (assuming a 60-foot or 18 m right of way). Use of the refuge will still be wildlife production, habitat protection, and recreation.

This alternative might allow the siting of the Maybell, Colorado to Dutch John, Utah, highway in the river corridor in the lower part of segment A and the upper part of segment B. One alignment would parallel the river for more than 4 miles (6.5 km). The managing agencies do not prefer this alternative alignment, but if selected, it would degrade the scenery and alter land use on about 75 acres (30 ha) of land, with a corridor of influence, due to relatively high speed traffic, extending approximately 0.5 mile (0.8 km) on either side of the road.

Soils and Vegetation Impacts

Under this alternative, soils and vegetation would be disturbed, altered, compacted, or lost at the development sites cited above, for a total disturbed area of about 480 acres (190 ha). Though these sites will concentrate human use at areas prepared to receive it, some compaction of soils and loss of vegetation is to be expected at popular undeveloped stopping points along the rivers, many of which are subject to daily or seasonal flooding. Impacts on these undeveloped stopping points, which total about 10 acres (4 ha), are not expected to be serious. At the developed sites, regeneration of vegetative species sensitive to trampling will be interfered with and possibly cease, leading to the succession of less sensitive species.

Some increases in erosion are also expected at these developed sites, which will peak during and just after construction and diminish as vegetative cover reestablishes itself.

Mining Impacts

The No Action Alternative would not impact mining in the corridor; it is now prohibited by a variety of reclamation, powersite, and other withdrawals. If these withdrawals are abrogated and are not replaced with others, mining in the corridor would be possible but improbable, due to the apparent lack of minerals in amounts that are economical to mine.

This alternative would impact upstream mining to the extent that expected and current regulations on air and water quality could slightly increase the costs either of mining or of consuming the minerals. Maintenance of flows for endangered fish could also impact mining; see the discussion of the environmental impacts of the proposal in chapter VIII.

Since coal mining is the primary mineral development expected upstream, and the coal is mostly to be stripped, little impact from water pollution at the mines is expected. Class I air designation, discussed below, may impact the burning of coal for power, but the power plants are 50-70 miles (80-110 km) away. In the absence of regional air-flow models it is not possible to predict how much of the pollution might drift to the monument and refuge. It is therefore not possible to predict whether these designations would preclude the burning of coal, so it is not possible to project increases in the cost of mining necessitated by transporting it to another region where it could be burned.

Water Resource Impacts

This alternative would tend to preserve water quality, by virtue of existing statutes and regulations. Some minor decreases in water quality due to increased recreation use are expected; these will be partly mitigated by improved sanitation measures called for in management plans by the BLM, Forest Service, and Fish and Wildlife Service.

In 1977, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a preliminary permit to the Colorado River Water Conservation District to investigate the feasibility of the proposed Juniper-Cross Mountain water project on the Yampa mainstream.⁴ Also, a preliminary permit application was submitted to FERC (then the FPC) in November of 1975 by the Vidler Water Tunnel Company and the City of Golden for the Sheephorn Project. It is possible that these projects will be modified or precluded if they conflict with the preservation of endangered fish species in the Yampa and Green Rivers protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-205). Any significant alteration of existing Yampa and lower Green River flows through Dinosaur National Monument could have adverse effects on endangered fish species, as well as the wilderness and the recreational values of the river corridor. The adverse impacts on the fish could arise from additional consumptive use of the water, if it were developed for irrigation or exported from the basin; from chemical changes caused by evaporative concentration and the addition of fertilizers to return flows; from altered temperatures resulting from storage in dams; from altered flow patterns caused by fluctuating daily releases or from altered

4. Preliminary Permit, Project No. 2757 (Juniper-Cross Mountain Project), Federal Power Commission, 1977.

seasonal and daily regime (e.g., fluctuating releases from a hydro-electric plant and reservoir).

Thus, if adverse effects on the fish would ensue, the consultation procedure of the Endangered Species Act would be brought into play. If it were determined that the projects would be likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the endangered fish, and if exemptions were not granted, this would require the projects not to be constructed or to be modified so as to eliminate the jeopardy to the endangered species. If this occurs, impacts on the water resource projects would be an effect of the No Action Alternative.

Other major projects, or combination of minor projects whose impacts on the fish were adverse, could also be affected by this alternative.

Also, as discussed above, reserved water right litigation and other compact development could prevent project development; this also would be an effect of the No Action Alternative.

If upstream projects are constructed, their effects would generally be to even out discharges, slightly increase salinity on a year-long basis, and diminish total annual flows. Insufficient data on most projects is available to predict their effect on water resources.

Some data has been made available on the Juniper-Cross Mountain project. Its effects in the study area will be to diminish spring flows greatly, and to deliver late season flows of approximately 500 cfs ($14.2 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$). Peak spring discharges will be approximately half the present flows (post-dam projections are about 11,000 cfs or $310 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$), since the Little Snake sometimes peaks in the range of 6,000 to 8,000 cfs (170 to $225 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$) and the project is expected to

discharge 1,800-3,000 cfs ($51-85 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$) during the boating season.⁵ Figures for evaporation are not available, but they should be under 5 percent of annual flows. By its location and priority date, this project could preclude the construction of some other projects upstream. By making water available from storage if Colorado is required to make deliveries to the Lower Basin under the 1922 compact (a "compact call"), the project could delay the shutting off of upstream diversions with priorities junior to its own. Outlet design will probably cause the project to release water of approximately the normal annual temperature fluctuation.

The impact of this alternative on modifications of the Flaming Gorge Dam to produce more hydropower cannot be stated; it is dependent on project feasibility, which is still to be studied, and on the Forest Service position, which has not been enunciated.

Fish and Wildlife Impacts

Under existing management, fish and wildlife would generally be preserved. Fish production should improve due to penstock modifications at Flaming Gorge Dam; these modifications and the release of warmer reservoir waters they permit may have a positive effect on endangered fish below the confluence with the Yampa River.

Increased recreation may decrease suitable habitat in the corridor for species of birds and wildlife that are sensitive to human disturbance and may cause increases in disturbance to nesting

5. Present operating plans actually call for maintaining 1,800-3,000 cfs ($51-85 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$) below the mouth of the Little Snake at this season as a minimum; expected spills, however, will bring the discharge up to the figures in the text.

waterfowl, particularly in the Browns Park area. Road construction and recreation improvements will displace species inhabiting the disturbed areas. Use of new roads will increase road kills; the amount of increase would not be great but is not known.

Gradual elimination of grazing in Dinosaur National Monument, and the recent elimination of feral horses, will have a positive effect on wildlife in and near the monument; bighorn sheep, whose diet may overlap with that of the horses, will be the chief beneficiary.

If dams are constructed up the Yampa under this alternative, there will be a variety of effects on fish and wildlife. The Juniper-Cross Mountain Project would inundate approximately 20,000 acres (8,000 ha) of big game winter range and migration routes for elk. The project areas are also wintering range for bald eagles, and there have been confirmed sightings of peregrine falcon in Cross Mountain Canyon. A definitive statement of the effects of this project must await preparation of an EIS.

The warm-water fishery of the Yampa in the project area would become a cold-water lake fishery. Drawing warm water from the surface of the two reservoirs would diminish the fish production of the lakes to an unknown degree, according to Behnke (1979), a trade-off for possible enhancement of the endangered fish species downstream.

One investigator (Behnke, 1979) has stated that dams up the Yampa offer the possibility of enhancing reproduction and survival of the endangered fish, if outlet works on both Juniper and Cross Mountain dams are designed to draw water from warmer, surface layers, so that discharges to the Yampa can reproduce the natural temperature fluctuations of the undammed river. While the outlet works apparently are so designed, Behnke also cautioned that it will be necessary to operate the Yampa project in coordination with

Flaming Gorge Dam. If high flows from the one can be timed to balance low flows from the other at Echo Park and below, spawning habitat will not be desiccated. It is not known whether the two projects can be operated in this fashion, nor has it been established that temperature alone has caused the reduction of the fish populations.

Socio-Economic Impacts

Social. The social environment is not expected to change significantly as a result of continued existing management in the river corridor. Life, health, and safety are not expected to be altered by this alternative.

Economic. The expected additional recreation use under the No Action Alternative will yield a net increase of approximately \$379,000 in on-site recreationist expenditures by 1990.⁶

The recreation and wildlife developments described are expected to cost \$4.6 million. Total annual administration, operation, and management costs (AO&M), including a 25-year sinking fund, are expected to increase by about \$137,000. On-site recreationist expenditures are expected to contribute about \$101,000 annually to the regional economy.

As discussed above, as a result of the Endangered Species Act, construction of the Juniper-Cross Mountain Project, the Sheeporn

6. On-site recreationist expenditures are used in this analysis to measure the economic value of recreation use for each option. Additional information on recreationist expenditures is detailed in appendix A.

Project, and others might not be possible under this alternative. The Juniper-Cross Mountain Project is expected to cost about \$150-200 million, and to generate \$7.5 million annually in power production. Construction outlays in the Craig area would have a substantial positive effect on the local economy, particularly if construction were timed to absorb workers as the construction of the local coal-fired power plant tapered off in the middle 1980s. Once completed, the project is expected to contribute only a few permanent jobs associated with operations, and jobs in the service industries supporting recreational activities on the reservoirs. The project will inundate approximately 4,500 acres of irrigated land. Using WPRS estimates of \$50 benefit per irrigated acre, this represents an annual loss of about \$225,000.

Costs and outputs, either of power or farm production, for other basin projects are not available, so it is not possible to predict the effect of this alternative on them, if their construction is in fact prevented under this alternative; or their effect on the area if constructed.

Transportation. The expected 25 percent increase in recreation in the corridor under this alternative by 1990 will cause a proportionate increase in traffic on roads serving the river corridor area in segments A and B.

Air Quality Impacts

The Clean Air Act, as amended in 1977 (P.L. 95-95) made the monument, national recreation area, and refuge "air quality Class II" areas, with the option of reassignment to Class I (least permissible degradation) if maintenance of air quality is an

important part of the visitor experience. The refuge has requested reassignment to Class I; a Department of the Interior task force has recommended the monument be a Class I area; as of this writing, the Forest Service had not yet determined whether or not to request Class I status for the recreation area. Since these areas cannot be reassigned to Class III, significant degradation of the air is unlikely under this alternative.

Assignment to Class I may have a greater influence than the present Class II on the siting of area coal burning plants; as stated above, none are planned closer than 50 miles (80 km) from the area, and no information on pollution dispersal is available, so the extent of this impact cannot be quantified.

The No Action Alternative would have two local impacts on air quality. Since, under this alternative, the Maybell to Dutch John highway could be sited in the corridor, increased auto traffic on the alignment would increase auto emissions and noise in the river corridor. In addition, under this alternative (as well as under several others) the construction of up to about 50 miles (80 km) of new access roads in Browns Park Wildlife Refuge would be undertaken. Use of these roads would cause increases in emissions and fugitive dust in the corridor. Since the projected increases in visitation with this option are about 36,000 visitor days over present use, these impacts are not expected to be serious.

Recreation Impacts

The increase of about 36,000 recreation days in segments A and B predicted to occur by 1990 under this alternative will have a number of effects. Solitude will be diminished somewhat, and in consequence the type of recreationist may alter to a more

crowd-tolerant type. The possible exodus of human-sensitive species from the corridor mentioned above may diminish opportunities for wildlife watching and thus lower the quality of the recreation present now. In general, the quality of the recreation experience and the diversity of recreation environments will be preserved by agency policy.

If the Juniper-Cross Mountain project is constructed under this alternative, an unknown amount of recreation days per year would take place on the reservoirs. An unquantified diminution of whitewater use of the Yampa in the monument would also result.

Cultural Resource Impacts

Particularly in the Browns Park segment there are outstandingly remarkable cultural resources, including sites on or eligible for the National Register. Agency management plans call for increased stabilization and protection of these sites. However, the projected 25 percent increase in recreation use may cause increases in vandalism and theft at these sites; this will be partly counterbalanced by increased efforts for education, interpretation, and site stabilization.

Other Impacts

This alternative would not necessarily require that additional rights of way for utility lines, pipelines, etc., be sited out of the corridor, or that new lines be buried or otherwise unobtrusively installed; there is thus a possibility that the scenic quality of the corridor could be degraded by future positioning of such utilities.

NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ALTERNATIVE

This plan, which does not involve wild and scenic river designation, is designed to satisfy one of the two major objectives of a Principles and Standards Analysis--national economic development. The basis of any national economic development option is twofold: increased output of goods and services, and increased economic efficiency in the production of goods and services. Comparing the effects of a national economic development plan to an environmental quality plan can reveal a portion of the opportunity cost⁷ of the environmental quality plan.

There is little that federal or state governments can do to promote rapid or maximum economic growth within the corridor beyond that which is already expected, as described in the No Action Alternative. Since the greatest economic resource in the visual corridor is the provision of recreation services, this option increases the output and the efficiency of providing recreation services. It results in diminished environmental values if environmental values conflict with economically beneficial objectives.

Under this alternative, recreation services will be expanded to provide for a total of approximately 274,000 recreation days use⁸ by 1990, an increase of about 99,000 recreation days over that shown for the No Action Alternative. The difference between this plan and the No Action Alternative in the amount of use expected by 1990 is well within the unmet demand for recreation services in the region (see appendix A, table 1).

7. Opportunity cost is the monetary or other advantage surrendered for producing one commodity at the expense of another commodity.

8. Use figures include all use at vehicle-access campgrounds along the Green and Yampa Rivers, not just boater use.

Increases in recreation use are projected in the Bridge Hollow area of segment B and in Dinosaur National Monument. In 1976, the Bureau of Land Management recorded 7,200 recreation days of use on public lands in the visual corridor. This plan proposes the development of a 10-unit BLM campsite, a 4-unit picnic site, a fish cleaning station, and potable water supply to provide for an increase of 12,000 recreation days of use by 1990.

River recreation use in Dinosaur National Monument has been limited by the National Park Service to prevent environmental degradation. An increase of 91,000 recreation days of use over the 1976 use of 102,000 recreation days could be accommodated with existing developments, with impacts described below.

Land Use Impacts

The National Economic Development Alternative will have essentially the same impacts as the No Action Alternative; land uses will remain the same, but the intensity of recreation use will increase. The facilities described above to serve this level of use will impact an estimated 15 additional acres (6 ha) of BLM lands, converting these lands to recreation use from their present use--grazing and small animal habitat.

Land use impacts in the monument, with these levels of use, would still take place at the extant river camps; no new acreage would be disturbed. Impacts on these intensively used campsites are described under soils and vegetation impacts and recreation impacts.

Soils and Vegetation Impacts

Construction of the additional facilities on BLM lands in segment B would disturb the soils and vegetation on about 15 acres (6 ha); principal species involved would be willow, tamarisk, cottonwood, sagebrush, and greasewood. There would be minor increases in erosion, particularly during construction, which would mostly end after the site revegetated; soils would be compacted by use. The regeneration of sensitive vegetation would be interfered with, leading to the succession of hardier species.

The large increase in recreation use at river campsites in the monument would have deleterious effect on those sites. Use levels almost double the present amount would largely preclude the regeneration of campsite vegetation; this in combination with unauthorized use of vegetation for firewood would eventually almost denude the camps, leaving hardpacked soils devoid of most shrubs and many trees. Erosion of these soils would increase to an unknown degree. About 500 acres (200 ha) would eventually be affected.

Mining Impacts

This alternative would have the same impacts as the No Action Alternative on mining.

Water Resources Impacts

The National Economic Development Alternative would have the same impacts as the No Action Alternative on water resources, except for decreases in water quality in the corridor caused by greatly

increased recreation use. Slight increases in turbidity would be registered during, and to a lesser extent after, construction of the BLM facilities. Similar increases in turbidity would also result from the erosion of damaged campsites in the monument. Exfiltration of fecal pollution from heavily used toilets at the monument sites would occur to an unknown but probably minor degree.

Air Quality Impacts

This alternative would have impacts of the same type as the No Action Alternative, but the increased use would produce slightly increased amounts.

Overall, the alternative will produce approximately a 65 percent increase in recreation use over the No Action Alternative, with concomitant increases in auto emissions on roads leading to the monument and to the BLM portions of segment B. Increases in fugitive dust and emissions are not predicted for other portions of the study area, since the increased use is not predicted to take place in them.

Fish and Wildlife Impacts

Disturbance of 15 acres of habitat to construct the BLM facilities will temporarily displace most species from the area, and permanently displace sensitive species. It is expected that most species of wildlife would desert the monument campsites under this alternative as they deteriorated; songbird species, some raptors, deer, and bighorn sheep would be most affected. Some highly tolerant species like field mice, chipmunk, and skunk, would likely continue to inhabit the camp areas, subsisting on food scraps, but

the impact of this alternative would generally be negative in the approximately 500 acres (200 ha) of monument sites.

Increased recreation use (more than double "no action" amounts for the BLM areas and almost double for the monument) would cause proportionate increases in disturbance of wildlife of all species in the corridor. This might result in disturbance of nesting peregrine falcon, but it is anticipated that recreation use would be curtailed at nesting time if disturbance occurred. Since fishing is not generally done by river users in the portions of the monument inhabited by the endangered fish, significant impacts on the fish are not expected.

Socio-Economic Impacts

Social. With the National Economic Development Alternative, these impacts would be the same as those of the No Action Alternative, except that development of a purified water supply in the Bridge Hollow area on BLM lands would be a beneficial impact.

Economic. The increase in recreation use discussed under recreation impacts will result in an increase of about \$1,256,000 (73 percent) in on-site recreationist expenditures over current expectations.

The recreation developments described under recreation impacts will cost \$48,500. An increase of \$294,000 for annual administration, operation, and management costs, including a 25-year sinking fund, is required by this plan to accommodate increased recreation use. The regional development impact of the increased number of on-site recreationists is expected to contribute \$513,000 annually to the regional economy. Otherwise, the economic and regional

development impacts expected are those described in the No Action Alternative.

Transportation. The increases in recreation (approximately 65 percent above the no action increases) described above would cause proportionate increases in traffic on highways leading to the monument and BLM lands in the corridor. Otherwise the effects are those described for the No Action Alternative.

Recreation Impacts

The increases in recreation predicted under the National Economic Development Alternative will seriously degrade river camps (up to about 500 acres or 200 ha) in the monument, lowering the quality of the recreation available. Most of the corridor in the monument would not be affected. The solitude of the recreation experience now available in the monument will be largely lost when use doubles; frequent contact between recreators will probably cause wilderness-oriented recreationists to be replaced by socially-oriented boaters. Availability of permits for non-commercial river trips would probably increase under this alternative, lessening competition for them. Otherwise, effects will be similar to those described in the No Action Alternative.

Cultural Resource Impacts

A 65 percent increase in total recreation use (all segments) will cause proportionate increases in damage to historic and cultural sites, despite protection accorded National Register and National Register-eligible sites. Impacts will be similar to those of the No Action Alternative, but will be concentrated where the use is expected: the upper portion of segment B and in the monument.

Other Impacts

Like the No Action Alternative, the NED alternative would have no effect on siting utility lines in the river corridor.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ALTERNATIVES

All of the following alternatives offer long-term preservation to the outstandingly remarkable river values of the Green and Yampa Rivers in the study area, by designation to the National Wild and Scenic River System. Environmental Quality (EQ) Alternative 1 would preserve the four river segments at the classifications they now qualify for. EQ Alternative 2, the "Green River only" alternative, would preserve segments A, B, and C at the classifications they qualify for; segment D would receive no designation. EQ Alternative 3, the "Yampa River only" alternative, would designate only segment D.

During the planning process, the study team considered two other EQ alternatives which would have involved environmentally enhancing segments A and B, so they could be classified "wild" and "scenic" respectively. These were discarded because they posed probable inconsistency with Wild and Scenic Rivers Act requirements, and because segment B needed no enhancement to qualify as a scenic river area. The enhancement measures included burying or relocating powerlines, installing submersible pumps, and screening other intrusions. These measures can be taken by managing agencies whether or not the rivers are designated. If they are taken after designation, the managing agencies could seek reclassification.

The third EQ alternative considered was to designate segments A, C, and D as in the proposal, and to designate segment B as a

recreational river area. This alternative was dropped when it was determined the Browns Park segment qualified as a scenic river area.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ALTERNATIVE 1

EQ Alternative 1 is the recommended plan; its effects and impacts were described in chapters VI and VIII.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ALTERNATIVE 2

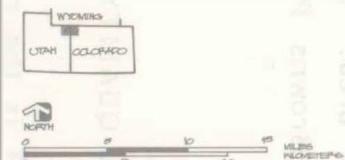
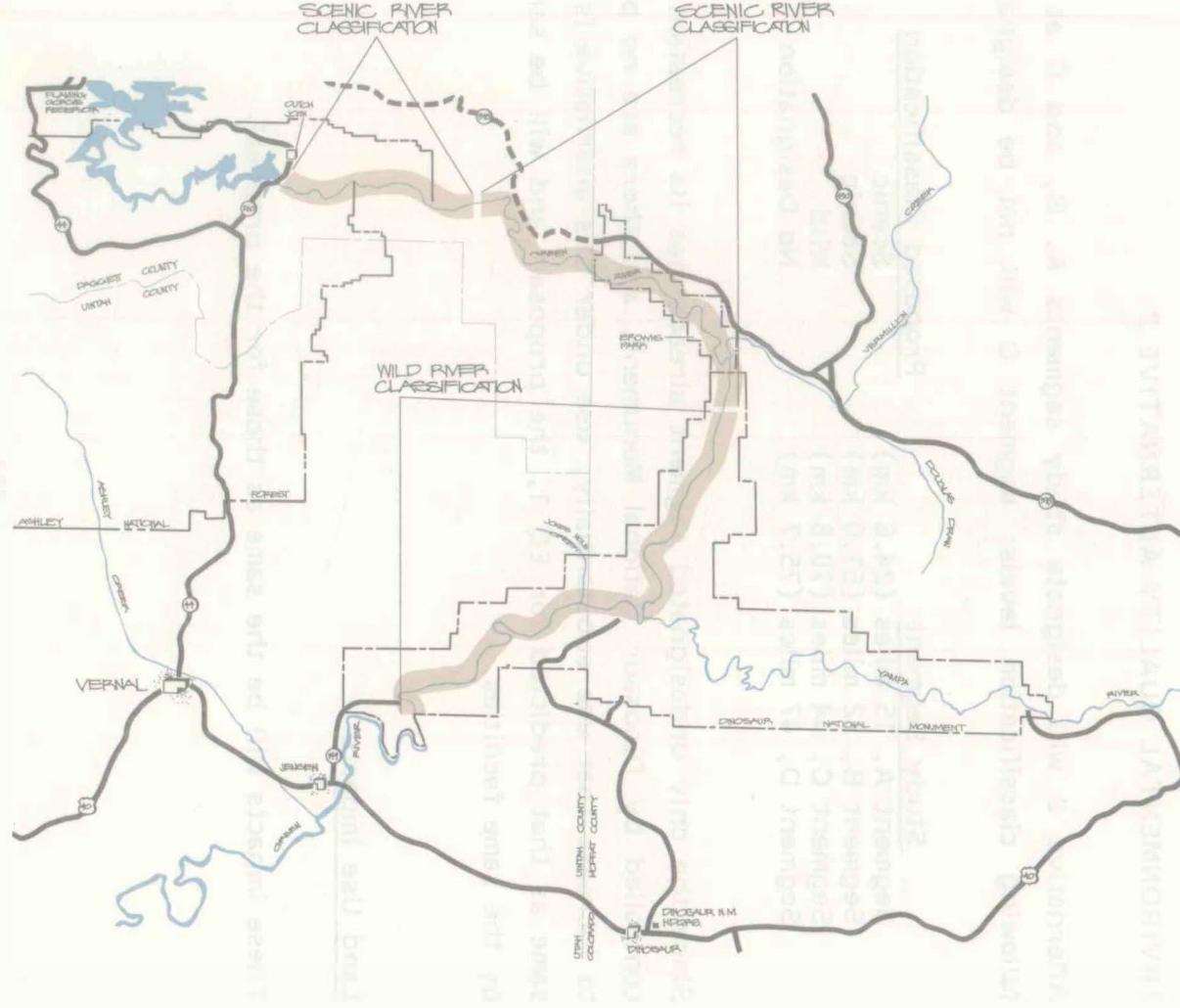
Alternative 2 will designate study segments A, B, and C at the following classification levels; segment D will not be designated.

<u>Study Segment</u>	<u>Proposed Classification</u>
Segment A, 15 miles (24.6 km)	Scenic
Segment B, 32 miles (51.0 km)	Scenic
Segment C, 44 miles (70.8 km)	Wild
Segment D, 47 miles (75.7 km)	No Designation

Since the only undesignated segment already has its recreation use controlled by Dinosaur National Monument, and there are no plans to increase that use substantially, use under this alternative is the same as that predicted for EQ 1, the proposal, and will be served by the same facilities.

Land Use Impacts

These impacts will be the same as those for the proposal.



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ALTERNATIVE 2

GREEN/YAMPA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY

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Soils and Vegetation Impacts

These will be the same as the proposal in segments A, B, and C. They will be the same as the No Action Alternative in segment D, i.e., eventual acquisition of the Mantle Ranch, with maintenance of the buildings as exhibits and the fields reverting to natural vegetation. Since nearly all of the corridor in segment D is proposed for wilderness, no impacts are foreseen.

Mining Impacts

These would generally be the same as the impacts of the proposal; mining in the corridor in all segments would still be prohibited.

Water Resource Impacts

Impacts on the Green River segments would be as described for the proposal; impacts on the Yampa would be as described under the No Action Alternative: proposed and potential upstream water resource development in the Yampa Basin would not be affected by this proposal, but could be by the Endangered Species Act and reserved rights litigation. Under this alternative, water resource developments in the Yampa corridor, (i.e., the Lily Park site), could be re-proposed at any time, but this is unlikely due to effects on Dinosaur National Monument and possible effects on the endangered fish. Public opinion, as manifested in the Echo Park dam controversy of the 1950s, makes re-activating these proposals very unlikely.



Under Alternative 2, no protection under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act would be extended to 47 miles of Segment D which qualify for "wild" classification. Earl Perry

Air Quality Impacts

Air quality impacts of this alternative would be the same as the proposal in the Green River segments. No impact is expected in segment D, since no significant increases in recreation use are planned by the monument for that area.

Fish and Wildlife Impacts

These impacts would be the same as the proposal's, except in segment D. Although the segment would not receive statutory protection under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, expected wilderness designation would preserve habitat for the fish and wildlife in the corridor at present levels.

Endangered fish would continue to receive the protection of the Endangered Species Act.

Socio-Economic Impacts

The impacts are projected to be the same as those of the proposal.

Recreation Impacts

The impacts are projected to be the same as those for the proposal.

Cultural Resources Impacts

The impacts are projected to be the same as those of the proposal.

Other Impacts

This alternative would have the same impacts as the proposal.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ALTERNATIVE 3

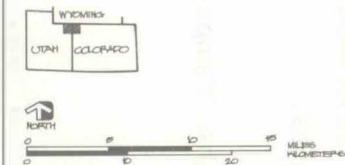
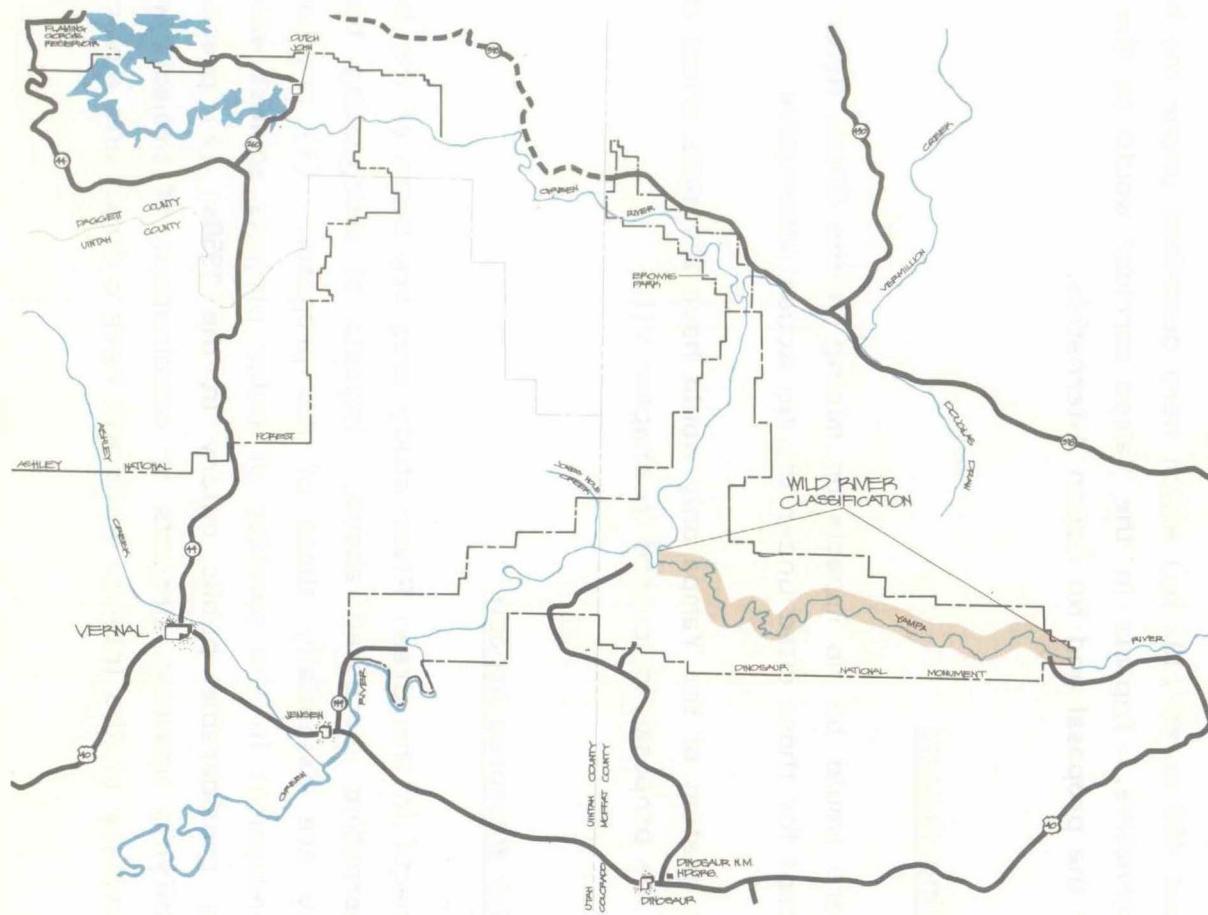
Alternative 3 will designate the Yampa study segment at the level for which it qualifies. Segments A, B, and C will not be designated. The proposed classification for each segment is as follows:

<u>Study Segment</u>	<u>Proposed Classification</u>
Segment A, 15 miles (24.6 km)	No designation
Segment B, 32 miles (51.0 km)	No designation
Segment C, 44 miles (70.8 km)	No designation
Segment D, 47 miles (75.7 km)	Wild

With no designation of the Green River segments, there would be no increase in recreation use and no facility development attributable to the proposal on the Green. Use would remain at the level predicted in the No Action Alternative--an estimated 175,000 recreation days in 1990--in all segments, since any increase in use that might be caused by the notoriety consequent on designation in segment D would be controlled to present levels by Dinosaur National Monument. Management of the Green River segments would continue as envisioned in the No Action Alternative.

Land Use Impacts

Land use impacts would be those of the No Action Alternative along the 91-mile (146.4-km) Green River corridor--scenic easements would definitely not be acquired on the 108 acres (43.7 ha) of private land. This would mean that these parcels could be



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ALTERNATIVE 3

GREEN/YAMPA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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subdivided or otherwise developed for private or commercial recreation purposes.

Impacts along the Yampa corridor would be the same as for the proposal.

Soils and Vegetation Impacts

Under this alternative, not designating the Green River segments would produce the soil and vegetation disturbances on a total of about 480 acres (190 ha) which were described under the No Action Alternative. Impacts in the Yampa corridor would be the same as for the proposal and No Action Alternative.

Mining Impacts

There would be no impacts on mining in the Green River corridor except for those cited under the No Action Alternative.

Designation of the Yampa only would have the same effect on mining as the proposal, discussed in chapter VIII.

Water Resource Impacts

Impacts in the Green River study area are those of the No Action Alternative discussed above. Impacts of designating the Yampa only are essentially those of the proposal: (1) precluding the development in the corridor of water projects against which there was considerable public outcry in the 1950s; (2) precluding or modifying upstream projects or combinations of projects which the Secretary of the Interior finds will have a direct and adverse effect



Red Canyon, Segment A NPS



Swallow Canyon, Segment B BLM



Lodore Canyon, Segment C HCRS

Alternative 3 does not designate any of the Green River study segments.



Designating the rivers to the National Wild and Scenic River System could affect upstream water developments on the Yampa if they had an adverse impact on the values for which the river was designated. Don Bock

on the values for which the study segment was designated; and (3) in general preserving the present essentially natural flow of the Yampa River, assuming projects that would significantly modify these flows are not or cannot be developed. It is predicted that present relatively high water quality will be maintained by existing regulations, rather than as an effect of this proposal.

Air Quality Impacts

The impacts on the undesignated segments of the Green will be those of the No Action Alternative. Since there are no increases predicted in use of the Yampa River under this alternative, no other impacts on air quality are anticipated.

Fish and Wildlife Impacts

The impacts resulting from designating the Yampa only would be those of the No Action Alternative for the Green, and those of the proposal for the Yampa. Overall (for both rivers), the difference in impacts between this alternative and the proposal would be very minor.

Socio-Economic Impacts

The impacts of this alternative would be essentially the same as those of the No Action Alternative, since designation of segment D only would not result in increases of recreation use. This alternative would not influence the construction of access roads in Browns Park or the siting of the Maybell to Dutch John highway.

TABLE XI-2 – EFFECTS OF ALTERNATIVES FOR THE GREEN AND YAMPA RIVERS – IN 1990
NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT

Components	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ALTERNATIVES									
	No Action Alternative		National Economic Development Alternative		Alternative 1		Alternative 2		Alternative 3	
	Recreation Use ¹	Total ²	Net ³	Total	Net	Total	Net	Total	Net	Total
Canoeing	300			300		300		300		300
Other Water Craft	56,750	11,510		109,300	52,250	56,750		56,750		56,750
Cold Water Fishing	4,700	100		4,700		4,700		4,700		4,700
Waterfowl Hunting ⁶	5,600	4,770		5,600		5,600		5,600		5,600
Picnicking	200			200		200		200		200
Camping	95,160	16,500		129,800	34,640	95,510	350	95,510	350	95,510
Walking	2,400			2,400		2,400		2,400		2,400
Floatboat Fishing	5,460	980		10,100	4,640	6,760	1,300	6,760	1,300	5,460
Camping/Shore Fishing	1,650			9,400	7,750	3,750	2,100	3,750	2,100	1,650
Deer Hunting ⁶	600	530		600		600		600		600
Other	1,690	1,660		1,310	-380	1,690		1,690		1,690
Total Annual Recreation Days	174,510	36,050		273,710	98,900	178,260	3,750	178,260	3,750	174,510
Annual Recreationist⁴ Expenditures	\$1,702,000	\$379,000		\$2,958,000	\$1,256,000	\$1,762,000	\$ 60,000	\$1,762,000	\$ 60,000	\$1,702,000
Annual Government⁵ Expenditures		\$440,000			\$298,000		\$102,000		\$102,000	0
Water Resource Development	Unknown		No effect			Although there is potential for development, feasibility and benefits of potential developments and conflicts with EQ, Alternatives 1-3 are unknown.				

¹All recreation use and values are given in recreation days.

²The total column under each option represents total expected recreation use or expenditures which will occur in the study area under that option by 1990.

³The net column under each option is the expected net effect of implementing that option. Under the No Action Alternative, recreation is expected to increase by the year 1990 by the net amounts shown. The net increases represented under alternatives 1-4 are all additional to the net increases shown under the No Action Alternative.

⁴The values used in estimating on-site recreationist expenditures per recreation day (RD) were: canoeing – \$14.04/RD, other water craft – \$14.04/RD, cold water fishing – \$7.00/RD, waterfowl hunting – \$13.28/RD, picnicking – \$3.00/RD, camping – \$7.30/RD, walking – \$2.00/RD, floatboat fishing – \$21.04/RD, camping/shore fishing – \$14.30/RD, deer hunting – \$20.00/RD, and other – \$2.00/RD. Sources used for these values are: Milliken and Mew, *Economic and Social Impact of Recreation at Reclamation Reservoirs*, University of Denver, March 1969; Doll, G. Fred and Lynn Phillips, *Wyoming's Hunting and Fishing Resources 1970*, Division of Business and Economic Research, University of Wyoming, Laramie, August 1972; 1974 *Colorado Big Game Harvest*, Colorado Division of Wildlife, Denver, 1975; John Devine, "White-water Boating on the Dolores River – Final Estimate of Effects of Dolores Project on Boating", January 18, 1977 – Memorandum to File, Bureau of Reclamation.

⁵Annual government expenses for each plan include capital costs annualized over a 50-year period, a 25-year sinking fund, annual administration, operation, and management costs.

⁶These activities occur in Segments A and B only.

TABLE XI-3 – EFFECTS OF ALTERNATIVES FOR THE GREEN AND YAMPA RIVERS IN 1990
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT

Components	No Action Alternative	National Economic Development Alternative		ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ALTERNATIVES					
		Total \$	Net \$	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Total \$	Net \$	Total \$
Regional Income Generated¹									
Service Stations	143,000	225,000	82,000	150,000	7,000	150,000	7,000	143,000	
Eating & Drinking Places	26,000	54,000	28,000	27,000	1,000	27,000	1,000	26,000	
Other Retail	316,000	544,000	228,000	326,000	10,000	326,000	10,000	316,000	
Lodging	41,000	84,000	43,000	42,000	1,000	42,000	1,000	41,000	
Other Services	18,000	31,000	13,000	19,000	1,000	19,000	1,000	18,000	
Transportation	44,000	80,000	36,000	46,000	2,000	46,000	2,000	44,000	
Rentals and Finance	105,000	188,000	83,000	110,000	5,000	110,000	5,000	105,000	
Total	693,000	1,206,000	513,000	720,000	27,000	720,000	27,000	693,000	
Value Added²									
Service Stations	197,000	310,000	113,000	207,000	10,000	207,000	10,000	197,000	
Eating & Drinking Places	30,000	63,000	33,000	31,000	1,000	31,000	1,000	30,000	
Other Retail	403,000	693,000	190,000	426,000	13,000	426,000	13,000	403,000	
Lodging	85,000	174,000	89,000	87,000	2,000	87,000	2,000	85,000	
Other Services	42,000	72,000	30,000	45,000	3,000	45,000	3,000	42,000	
Transportation	50,000	90,000	40,000	52,000	2,000	52,000	2,000	50,000	
Rentals and Finance	116,000	207,000	91,000	121,000	5,000	121,000	5,000	116,000	
Total	923,000	1,609,000	686,000	969,000	36,000	969,000	36,000	923,000	
Employment—(Man Years)	Total	Total	Net	Total	Net	Total	Net	Total	Net
Service Stations	21	33	12	22	1	22	1	21	
Eating & Drinking Places	7	14	7	7	0	7	0	7	
Other Retail	31	53	22	32	1	32	1	31	
Lodging	14	19	15	14	0	14	0	14	
Other Services	6	10	4	6	0	6	0	6	
Transportation	1	2	1	1	0	1	0	1	
Rentals & Finance	2	4	2	2	0	2	0	2	
Total	82	145	63	84	2	84	2	82	

¹Regional income generated is the portion of National Economic Development account expenditures which remain in the region.

²Value added is the gross regional product.

³Total \$ under each option is the sum of the total \$ for the No Action Option and Net \$ for each option.

**TABLE XI-4 – EFFECTS OF ALTERNATIVES FOR THE GREEN AND YAMPA RIVERS IN 1990
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACCOUNT**

Components	No Action Alternative	National Economic Development Alternative	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3
Preservation of Free-Flowing Stream	None Guaranteed	None	91 Miles—Wild River 47 Miles—Scenic River 138 Miles—Preserved (222 km)	44 Miles—Wild River 15 Miles—Scenic River 32 Miles—Recreational River 91 Miles—Preserved (147 km)	47 Miles—Wild River 47 Miles—Preserved (76 km)
Preservation and enhancement of areas of natural beauty.	None guaranteed; however protection is assured by present managing agency policy. The proposed Maybell to Rock Springs road realignment could degrade areas of natural beauty in the river corridor along portions of segment A and B.	Areas of natural beauty would receive less protection than under the No Action Alternative. Economic matters would have highest priority. Additional road for the proposed Maybell to Rock Springs realignment could be developed in the river corridor and result in degradation of natural beauty.	Natural beauty preserved on about 88,000 acres (35,600 ha). Would preclude the development of additional road for the proposed Maybell to Rock Springs realignment within the river corridor, assuming a more feasible and prudent alternative exists. Scenic easements would protect 108 acres (43.7 ha) of private land.	Natural beauty preserved on about 58,000 acres (23,500 ha). Would preclude the development of additional road for the proposed Maybell to Rock Springs realignment within the river corridor, assuming a more feasible and prudent alternative exists. Scenic easements would protect 143.4 acres (58 ha) of private land.	Natural beauty preserved on about 30,000 acres (12,100 ha). Would not preclude the development of additional road for the proposed Maybell to Rock Springs realignment within the river corridor, which could degrade areas of natural beauty in portions of segments A and B.
Preservation of historic and cultural resources	Sites protected by federal and state laws. Some damage could occur to sites on private land.	Higher levels of recreation use without the expenditure of additional funds for resource protection may result in increased damage to resources.	The provision of additional money for resource protection would improve site protection. Interpretation would enhance public use values.	Higher levels of recreation use would be offset by additional money for resource protection. Interpretation would enhance public use values.	Sites protected by federal and state laws. Some damage could occur to sites on private lands.
Preservation of air quality	Additional road for the proposed Maybell to Rock Springs road realignment could be established in the river corridor along segments A and B and could result in degradation of air quality.	Additional road for the proposed Maybell to Rock Springs road realignment could be established in the river corridor along segments A and B and could result in degradation of air quality.	Would preserve the air quality in all segments, assuming a more feasible and prudent alternative for the proposed Maybell to Rock Springs road realignment exists. Not constructing some new access roads in Browns Park maintains air quality.	Would preserve the air quality in all segments, assuming a more feasible and prudent alternative for the proposed Maybell to Rock Springs road realignment exists.	Additional road for the proposed Maybell to Rock Springs road realignment could be established in the river corridor along portions of undesignated segments A and B and could result in degradation of air quality.
Preservation of water quality	State water quality standards will be met.	State standards could be lowered if necessary for economic purposes.	Increased and improved sanitary facilities would improve water quality.	Increased and improved sanitary facilities would improve water quality.	State water quality standards will be met.
Protection of threatened or endangered wildlife species	Species are currently protected.	Species are currently protected; however, economic importance of resources is the primary concern.	Species are currently protected.	Species are currently protected.	Species are currently protected.
Protection of Threatened or endangered vegetative species	None known.	None known.	None known.	None known.	None known.
Avoid Irreversible or Irretrievable Effects	Loss of scenic and recreational values possible.	Greater loss of scenic and recreationa values probable.	Scenic and recreational values preserved. Future development choices postponed.	Loss of scenic and recreational values in undesignated segment possible. Future development choices postponed in designated segments.	Loss of scenic and recreational values in undesignated segments possible. Future development choices postponed in designated segment.

Recreational Impacts

Since no increase in recreation is expected in the designated segment, the impacts will be the same as those of the No Action Alternative.

Cultural Resources Impacts

These will be essentially the same as the No Action Alternative along the Green--increased attention to stabilization, protection, and interpretation of National Register or National Register-eligible sites, coupled with minor increases in vandalism and theft resulting from increased use. In the designated segment, slight increases in visitor interest may be caused by designation and the resulting publicity, which may in turn cause slight increases in vandalism or inadvertent damage to sites, although use of the river would remain the same as at present. These deleterious impacts cannot be quantified, but are not expected to be large.

Other Impacts

This alternative would not affect the siting of utility lines and pipelines along the Green River segments; it would probably preclude use of the Yampa River corridor as a route for such utilities. Terrain, however, makes such siting unlikely, as does management policy.

SUMMARY AND COMPARISON OF ALTERNATIVES

The projected annual recreationist expenditures, an expression of monetary benefit, for the five alternative plans range from

\$1,702,000 to \$2,958,000. Among the three environmental quality alternatives, the differences in annual recreationist expenditures are minimal. The national economic development (NED) plan would produce the greatest amount of recreationist expenditures (\$2,958,000) since it is specifically designed to generate the maximum amount of recreation use the rivers could attract and support.

Environmental Quality Alternative 1 would preserve 138 miles (222.2 km) of free-flowing river and associated areas of natural beauty within the river corridor. Environmental Quality Alternatives 2 and 3 would preserve 91 miles (146.4 km) and 47 miles (75.7 km) of free-flowing river and associated natural values, respectively.

Except for EQ Alternative 2, which excludes the Yampa River from designation, all environmental quality alternatives could affect the feasibility and development of water resource proposals in the Yampa River Basin upstream from segment D. Additional information on how these projects would affect flow regimes and river use is necessary to make other than general determinations of how wild and scenic river designation would affect the Yampa basin water resource proposals, and vice versa.

Several alternatives for the proposed realignment of the road from Maybell, Colorado, to Dutch John, Utah, closely parallel the Green River through a portion of segments A and B. One alternative route closely parallels a portion of segment B and much of segment A. This alternative, in particular, could degrade the river corridor's natural beauty. Assuming a more feasible and prudent alignment exists, the Environmental Quality alternatives, with the probable exception of Alternative 3, would preserve the natural beauty of segments A and B. Alternative 3 would not provide adequate protection for the natural beauty of segments A and B as it entails wild and scenic river designation of segment D only.

Selection of Alternatives

The National Economic Development Plan was not chosen since it does not guarantee preservation of the two free-flowing rivers and associated natural values. It would also allow visitor use levels that would be unacceptable to managing agencies due to probable degradation of outstanding natural resources.

Environmental Quality Alternatives 2 and 3, the "Green only" and "Yampa only" alternatives, when compared to the other three environmental quality options, do not offer full protection of the study area's outstanding natural and recreational values. They also do not offer compensating economic or management advantages in the corridor. Environmental Quality Alternative 2 would not affect major water development in the upper Yampa Basin, assuming the other constraints permit it, but such development could degrade the river's values.

Environmental Quality Alternative 1 was selected as the recommended plan. This alternative guarantees preservation of the outstanding natural and recreational values of the Yampa and Green Rivers at the level for which the segments qualify.

TABLE XI-5 – EFFECTS OF ALTERNATIVES FOR THE GREEN AND YAMPA RIVERS – IN 1990
SOCIAL WELL BEING ACCOUNT

Components	No Action Alternative	National Economic Development Alternative	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ALTERNATIVES		
			Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3
Educational, cultural, and recreational opportunities	Opportunities remain similar to those at present. However, protection is assured only by present managing agency policy.	If deemed economically valuable, opportunities increase. Otherwise, opportunities and/or quality may decrease.	Diversity and availability of opportunities are preserved. Quality of opportunities is preserved.	Diversity and availability of opportunities in designated segments increase. Quality of opportunities is preserved.	Diversity and availability of opportunities in designated segment increase. Quality of opportunities is preserved.
Life, Health, and Safety	This plan is neutral for this component.	This plan is neutral for this component.	Increased and improved water and sanitary facilities improve health. Signing improves safety.	Increased and improved water and sanitary facilities improve health. Signing improves safety.	This plan is neutral for this component.
Income Distribution	Insufficient data to assess this plan.	Income to service and recreational supply industries increases.	Income to service and recreational supply industries increases.	Income to service and recreational supply industries increases.	Income to service and recreational supply industries increases.
Emergency Preparedness	This plan is neutral for this component.	This plan is neutral for this component.	This plan is neutral for this component.	This plan is neutral for this component.	This plan is neutral for this component.
Freedom of Travel	Proposed Maybell to Rock Springs road realignment could occur within the river corridor in portions of segments A and B.	Road placement is assumed to be that which provides the most benefits over costs in economic terms. Road realignment could occur in segments A and B.	Would preclude the development of additional road for the proposed Maybell to Rock Springs road realignment within the river corridor in portions of segments A and B, assuming a more feasible and prudent alternative exists.	Would preclude the development of additional Maybell to Rock Springs road realignment within portions of segments A and B, assuming a more feasible and prudent alternative exists.	Proposed Maybell to Rock Springs road realignment could occur in river corridor in portions of segments A and B.
Preservation of Freedom of Choice	Many options preserved.	Economically important options increase. Preservation options decrease.	As level of preservation increases, economic development options decrease. Environmental quality option preserved.	Preservation options increase and economic options decrease in designated segments.	Preservation options increase and economic options decrease in designated segment.

C H A P T E R X I I

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPOSAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

A joint federal-state study team was organized in January 1976. Leadership responsibilities were shared by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service (formerly the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation) and the Colorado Department of Natural Resources (represented by the Colorado Water Conservation Board) and, with the extension of the study boundaries, by the Utah Department of Natural Resources. Other member agencies included the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Mines, and the Bureau of Reclamation.

Assisting the study team were representatives of federal and state agencies, water districts, and conservation and other organizations. Public views were solicited through the formal review process and at two series of public meetings held in 1976 in Craig and Denver, Colorado, and in Vernal and Salt Lake City, Utah; the first series of meetings informed the public about the study, while the second presented management alternatives and provided for public input and discussion. In addition, news releases and information on the public meetings were widely distributed.

Basic information used in developing the report and environmental statement was obtained from a variety of sources, including the Colorado and Utah Statewide Outdoor Recreation plans and inputs resulting from public meetings. In some instances information was

supplied by team or work group members with special expertise in the subjects covered. Prior to making the determination of river eligibility and classification presented in chapter IV, field reconnaissance was conducted by the team, accompanied by representatives of interested agencies and organizations and concerned private citizens. This was also accomplished in 1976, although additional limited field inspections were done in 1977 and 1978. In addition, experts in several resource fields advised the team on which natural values (by segment) could be considered "outstandingly remarkable."

In March 1978, responsibility for the study of the Green and Yampa Rivers was transferred from the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service to the National Park Service. After transfer, the report and environmental impact statement were edited, revised, and completed. The National Park Service also prepared the graphics and printed this document.

**Public Comments on the Draft Statement
and Responses**

The public comment portion of this document is divided into five sections:

- 1) Comments from the Governors of Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming, and comments from federal agencies and congressional sources
- 2) Comments from state agencies.
- 3) Comments from local governments.
- 4) Comments from the public and from organizations which required responses.
- 5) Comments from the public and from organizations which did not appear to require responses.

Comments are alphabetized within each section. Comments on organization stationery are alphabetized by the name of the signer if the letter did not state the organization's position, and by the name of the organization if the organization's position is being stated.

Of the letters not requiring responses, 68 individually signed letters and letters with a total of 32 multiple signatures favored designation of the river. A further 30 letters from a high school class, all of which favored designation of the rivers, are represented by a single letter; with these the total of those favoring designation is 130. Eleven organizations favored designation.

There were 17 letters signed individually and a total of 4 signatures on multiple signature letters which opposed designation. Seven organizations also opposed designation.

Some of the letters took no direct position on designation. Of this type, seven letters were from residents of Cheyenne, Wyoming, who expressed the desire that Cheyenne's water supply project not be interfered with by this proposal. Eleven letters are included which indicated support for the construction of the Juniper-Cross Mountain project; though these do not express specific opposition to designation, their tenor is opposed.

**COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNORS OF COLORADO,
UTAH, AND WYOMING, AND COMMENTS FROM
FEDERAL AGENCIES
AND CONGRESSIONAL SOURCES**

Comments

Responses



State of Colorado

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
136 State Capitol
Denver
80203

RICHARD D. LAMM
Governor

839-2479

December 7, 1979

Cecil D. Andrus, Secretary
U. S. Department of the Interior
Eighteenth & "C" Streets, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Cece:

The Green and Yampa Rivers Draft Wild and Scenic River Study and Draft Environmental Statement has been received and reviewed by the State. It is noted that the report was prepared in cooperation with the Colorado Department of Natural Resources.

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In recognition of the outstandingly remarkable geologic, scenic, recreational, fish and wildlife, and cultural values of the pertinent segments of the Green and Yampa Rivers, I concur with the study's conclusion that the 42 miles of the Green River and the 47 miles of the Yampa River study segments which lie within Colorado are eligible for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

However, I must take exception to certain conclusions, interpretations, and inferences contained in the report, as follows:

1. The Brown's Park segment, Section B, should be classified as scenic, as the Colorado Department of Natural Resources has recommended.
2. Contrary to what the draft report implies, designation does not foreclose future upstream water resources developments. Whether the alterations in flow conditions to which potential upstream developments would unreasonably diminish the outstandingly remarkable wild and scenic characteristics of a designated river is a question which must be addressed on a case-by-case basis. The State must be directly involved as a full partner in any such future determinations.
3. Wild and scenic river designation should not be used as a basis for altering the operation of or enlarging the releases from Flaming Gorge Reservoir and other features of the Colorado River Storage Project. The dam should be operated exclusively to accomplish the purposes and goals set forth in the Colorado River Storage Project and Colorado River Basin Project Acts.

1 We altered our recommendation for the Browns Park segment.

2 Because information on most of the upstream projects was too sparse to make such a case-by-case determination, we had to do a "worst-case analysis" and assume designation could result in the foreclosure or modification of all or most of the major projects in order to state impacts. Our overall conclusion, on page 237 of the draft, was that designation might limit but not eliminate upstream development. If Secretarial determinations on individual projects are required, they will be made when detailed plans, including operation criteria, are made available. The state's assistance and participation in this process will be sought.

3 We identified a need for altered releases for fish, wildlife, aesthetics, and recreation. We recommended this be discussed during the management planning period. But such alterations may not be legally feasible as we noted. Although we have suggested that this matter be fully considered, if appropriate, during management planning, it has been and probably will be discussed again during present river management activities. In fact, we know of nothing in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act which could permit it to serve as the basis for altering these flows. Please note that we have modified our discussion of this item in the Final Report and Impact Statement.

Comments

Page Two
Cecil D. Andrus, Secretary
December 7, 1979

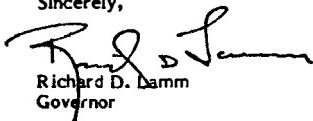
4. On page 237, the report states that approximately 521,400,000 kilowatt hours per year of potential power and 600,000 acre-feet of irrigation, municipal and industrial water developments would be eliminated by designation. This statement is unsubstantiated by the information contained in the draft report.

Until the deficiencies and incorrect interpretations noted above are corrected, I cannot support designation of either of these segments for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Furthermore, I would oppose any legislation proposing the designation of these segments unless the items noted above are specifically taken into account in any such legislation.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

319

Sincerely,



Richard D. Lamm
Governor

Responses

4. See response #2. The power figure (which has been revised) was furnished by project proponents; the acre-foot figure (also revised) was the net annual flow minus required compact deliveries to Utah. We have revised this discussion.

Comments

Responses



SCOTT M. MATHISON
GOVERNOR

STATE OF UTAH
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
SALT LAKE CITY
84114

September 21, 1979

Mr. Glen T. Bean
Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P. O. Box 25237
Denver, CO 80225

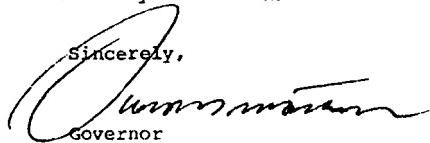
Dear Mr. Bean:

The State of Utah commends the National Park Service for a well written and descriptive draft of the Wild and Scenic River Study and Environmental Statement for the Green and Yampa Rivers. Utah was represented on the study team. I strongly endorse this working relationship between the State and the National Park Service.

320

Utah supports the preservation of some of our more outstanding areas for future generations to enjoy. I have asked the State Wilderness Committee to develop a State-wide Rivers Plan similar in scope to the State-wide Wilderness Plan. The purpose of such a plan would be to provide an overall perspective for all rivers to determine which ones should be preserved and which ones should not.

That Committee is presently working on the plan, and I am confident it will develop a plan and recommendations that will serve as a basis for evaluating all wild and scenic river studies and proposals. Until that work is completed, Utah is not supporting designation of any of the Green or Yampa Rivers under study for designation under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Sincerely,

Governor

SMM:gch

Comments

Responses



WYOMING
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
CHEYENNE

ED HERSCHEL
GOVERNOR

November 7, 1979

The Honorable Cecil D. Andrus
Secretary of the Interior
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Secretary Andrus:

Several state agencies and other public and private entities have brought to my attention a proposal by the National Park Service, which is a plan to designate segments of the Green and Yampa Rivers as "wild and scenic." I am disturbed by this proposal on several accounts.

- 321 1 First, Wyoming was not included in any of the discussions concerning the designation of the Green and Yampa Rivers as wild and scenic; several Wyoming water development proposals may be jeopardized and foreclosed by the actions of the National Park Service, and the proposed actions of the National Park Service do not take into account the division of water in the Colorado River as set forth in the Colorado River Compact and the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact.

The National Park Service has been remiss for not including the State of Wyoming into the discussions concerning the Green and Yampa Rivers. As a member of the Upper Colorado River Commission and a signatory to the Colorado River Compact and the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact, it would seem logical and appropriate to include Wyoming in the discussions concerning the proposed federal actions with respect to the Colorado River and its tributaries. Without Wyoming input, it would appear that the draft environmental statement would be inaccurate due to the future water development proposals the state may exercise which have not been included in the environmental statement.

- 2 The proposed actions of the National Park Service may seriously jeopardize several important water development programs in Wyoming, and may serve to frustrate Wyoming initiatives which are protected under various interstate compacts and public laws. Of immediate concern is the impact

1 The study was initiated by the former Bureau of Outdoor Recreation. Apparently the original study team believed there would be no direct impact on Wyoming since (1) the Green River in Wyoming is above Flaming Gorge Reservoir, which effectively controls the interrelationship between upstream and downstream projects, and (2) the segment of the Yampa in the study was well removed from Wyoming. Unfortunately, the National Park Service was initially unaware of Wyoming's interest when it received responsibility for the study, and thus perpetuated the oversight until we distributed copies of the Draft Report and EIS for review. Pursuant to a letter from Secretary Andrus of December 18, 1979, we met with your designated representative to make sure that the final report and environmental statement properly identify Wyoming's concerns. We believe this is reflected in this document.

- 2 We stated in the draft EIS that there would be no effect on water development of the Green River upstream from Flaming Gorge Dam. We have examined data on the Cheyenne Water Project's Stage I and II. We foresee no impact resulting from designation of the Yampa or Green River on those stages of the project. Information on Stage III sufficient to discuss impacts is not available. We have noted in the Final Report that the Fish and Wildlife Service is preparing but has not completed a biological opinion on the project; while this may be significant, it is not related to the wild and scenic rivers proposal and its impacts.

Comments

Responses

that the proposed federal action would have on the Cheyenne Stage II municipal water supply project. As proposed, the Cheyenne Stage II project would take waters from a tributary of the Yampa River and divert it to the North Platte River for use in Cheyenne and other North Platte River communities which will need the water to cope with increased growth brought about by federal energy development policies. If the proposed wild and scenic river designation delays or precludes the Cheyenne Stage II project, it may be difficult for the people of Wyoming to accommodate or meet the demands placed on them by other federal actions in the energy area.

Additionally, Congressionally authorized projects, such as the Savery-Pot Hook Reclamation project would have to undergo another round of review by the Department to determine what impacts it would have on the wild and scenic segments of the Green and Yampa Rivers. Further, considering that the draft environmental statement briefly discusses the Savery-Pot Hook project, which is partially located in Wyoming, why did the National Park Service not include Wyoming in the discussions on the wild and scenic river proposal?

- 3** Finally, and most importantly, the draft environmental statement is inadequate because it does not recognize the "law of the river" as defined and outlined in the Colorado River Compact and the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact. Specifically, the National Park Service has ignored the fact that Wyoming is entitled to a specified share of the water in the Upper Colorado River Basin. These compacts provide for a specific allocation of water among and between the various signatories to these compacts, however, the proposed action of the National Park Service appears to disregard and usurp the authority of the respective states and to limit present and future actions of the states. Essentially, the proposal of the National Park Service appears to be in conflict with Section 13 (e) and (f) of Public Law 93-621, as amended.

- 4** In addition to ignoring the provisions of the above mentioned interstate compacts, the draft environmental statement does not adequately address the impacts that the proposed designation would have on other equally important values such as power generation, agriculture, municipal needs, and other activities that are dependent on stored water at Flaming Gorge and Fontenelle Reservoirs, nor does it provide for a range of water management options.

- 5** In closing, the draft environmental statement is inadequate and has not provided the State of Wyoming with an opportunity to contribute to the development of a practical approach to managing the waters of the Upper Colorado River System. Any further action on the part of the National

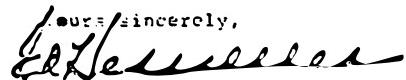
3 We have included in the Final Report and EIS a discussion of "the law of the river." Since sections 13(e) and (f) of the Wild And Scenic River Acts help govern this proposal, nothing in it can be in conflict with those sections of the Act. In short, we see no interference with interstate compacts.

4 We stated that there would be no impact of designation on upstream development above Flaming Gorge Dam. We did recommend that discussions of differing minimum flows from Flaming Gorge be a part of management planning, but stated that the Water and Power Resources Service position was that such alterations in the operation of the dam may not be feasible due to legislative constraints. Our recommendation was based on needs identified for recreation, aesthetics, and fisheries/wildlife; its attainment is desirable from those points of view, but it may not be feasible. For that reason, we have not included it as a part of our Final Report proposal, and we do not find it either necessary or possible to ascertain its impacts at present, especially since we have neither insisted nor implied that the operation of Flaming Gorge Dam must change.

5 See response #1. We trust that your concerns have been adequately treated in the Final Report and Environmental Impact Statement.

Comments

Park Service on this matter should be stopped until such time as Wyoming is included in the deliberations concerning the designation of the Green and Yampa as wild and scenic rivers.

Yours sincerely,


EH/wvt

attachments

cc: The Honorable Richard Cheney
The Honorable Alan K. Simpson
The Honorable Malcolm Wallop
Mr. James B. Thompson, Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region, National Park Service

Responses

**Advisory
Council On
Historic
Preservation**

Comments

Responses

1522 K Street NW.
Washington D.C.
20005

Reply to P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

August 6, 1979

Mr. Glen Bean
Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Mr. Bean:

325

This is to acknowledge receipt of the draft wild and scenic river report and environmental statement for the Green-Yampa Rivers Study, Colorado and Utah, on August 1, 1979. We regret that we will be unable to review and comment on this document in a timely manner pursuant to Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

1 Nevertheless, the National Park Service is reminded that, if the proposed undertaking will affect properties included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, it is required by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. Sec. 470f, as amended, 90 Stat. 1320) to afford the Council an opportunity to comment on the undertaking prior to the approval of the expenditure of any Federal funds or prior to the issuance of any license. The Council's regulations, "Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties" (36 CFR Part 800..) detail the steps an agency is to follow in requesting Council comment.

Generally, the Council considers environmental evaluations to be adequate when they contain evidence of compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended. The environmental documentation must demonstrate that either of the following conditions exists:

- 1 Any management plans for the area, as noted on pages 247 and 248 of the draft, will be in compliance with 36 CFR, Part 800.

Comments	Responses
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Page 2
Mr. Glen Bean
Green-Yampa Rivers Study
August 6, 1979

1. No properties included in or that may be eligible for inclusion in the National Register are located within the area of environmental impact, and the undertaking will not affect any such property. In making this determination, the Council requires:

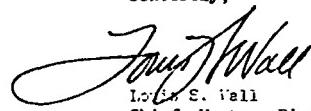
--evidence that the agency has consulted the latest edition of the National Register (Federal Register, February 6, 1979, and its monthly supplements);

--evidence of an effort to ensure the identification of properties eligible for inclusion in the National Register, including evidence of contact with the State Historic Preservation Officer, whose comments should be included in the final environmental statement.

2. Properties included in or that may be eligible for inclusion in the National Register are located within the area of environmental impact, and the undertaking will or will not affect any such property. In cases where there will be an effect, the final environmental statement should contain evidence of compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act through the Council's regulations, "Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties".

Should you have any questions, please call Jane King at (303) 234-1946.

Sincerely,


Roger S. Wall
Chief, Western Division
of Project Review



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

Comments

Responses

DEC 9 1979

Honorable Cecil D. Andrus
Secretary of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Secretary:

This is in response to your letter of July 19, 1979, requesting our views on your draft report and draft environmental impact statement on a study of the Green and Yampa Rivers.

1 We believe that since the primary issue in this case is how to best use the flows of the Yampa River, the report should address the water use issue in a more direct manner. There is a great deal of information throughout the report on flow rates, minimum and maximum flows, and water rights but, in no one place is there a summary statement which addresses the water use issue directly. Since this concern is so central to understanding the situation, we suggest that such a summary statement be included in the final report. Such a statement could begin with the average annual rate of flow of the Yampa River through the study area of 1,567,000 acre-feet per year (page 39). The minimum flows recommended on page 8 amount to about 596,000 acre-feet per year. However, these are really minimum and it is probably more realistic to use the "optimum minimum" flows on page 66 on which to make assumptions on the water needs for wild and scenic river purposes. These flow rates amount to about 1,160,000 acre-feet per year leaving some 407,000 acre-feet for possible future upriver water developments. In either case, the floating season through the study area would be substantially increased from that which exists under present natural conditions. Extension of floatable river flows through the recreation season could come about through operation of future upriver water developments.

The summary statement need not be intended as either an endorsement or a condemnation of any potential Yampa River development. Rather, it would simply bring together a number of pieces of information scattered throughout the report so the central question of water use for a full spectrum of uses is summarized for the reader in one place.

1 We deleted reference to minimum flows on the Yampa, since such flows will probably result from the litigation on federal reserved water rights now before the Colorado Supreme Court. We do not know what the volume of flows awarded will be, or the timing, and therefore we cannot present such a discussion, even though we agree it would be editorially desirable. We would also note a Department of the Interior Solicitor's opinion of June 25, 1979 (M36914), which states that designation vests the United States with a water right. The quantification of such a water right would be determined through state court proceedings, and is limited to 1) unappropriated waters on the date of designation, and 2) only those quantities necessary for wild and scenic river purposes.

Comments

Following are some specific comments on the report:

- 2 Page 11, paragraph 2, implies that the entire 91-mile segment of the Green River covered by this report was mandated by P.L. 93-621. Only the portion in Colorado was named in P.L. 93-621; the portion in Utah was added by the Secretary of the Interior at the request of the Governor of Utah.
- Page 14, paragraph 3, misquotes P.L. 93-621, ". . . within the boundaries of the Dinosaur National Monument," should read, ". . . within the State of Colorado."
- 3 Page 64, top paragraph - The Dutch John airport is administered by the Forest Service, the Manila airport by Daggett County.
- 4 Page 90, paragraph 2, states that a commercial float trip use allocation of 2,110 user days exists. No allocations of use limitations have yet been established.
- 5 Page 91, paragraph 2, states that the Little Hole Trail has been nominated for National Recreation Trail status. This should be "has been established." Similarly, page 207, first paragraph, mentions the Little Hole Trail. This could be amplified to identify the National Recreation Trail status of the Little Hole Trail.
- 6 Page 91, paragraph 3, there is camping between Little Hole and Indian Crossing, including some facility development. Check with BLM.
- 7 Page 91, paragraph 4, is in error. Vehicle use is prohibited on the Little Hole Recreation Trail.
- 8 Page 208, last paragraph, last sentence, the reference to protecting the natural values of the visual corridor implies that only the "seen" area is to be protected. This should be clarified to provide for protection of the natural qualities of all lands within the authorized boundaries of the designated Wild, Scenic, or Recreation River area (Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, Section 15c, as amended by Public Law 93-279, May 10, 1974.)
- 9 Page 209, bottom paragraph, the last sentence appears to imply some jurisdiction and scenic easement authority beyond and outside the designated boundaries of the Wild and Scenic River. This would be beyond the scope and authority of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, at least for the segment to be administered by the Forest Service. Perhaps the other agencies have authorities of which we are not aware.

Responses

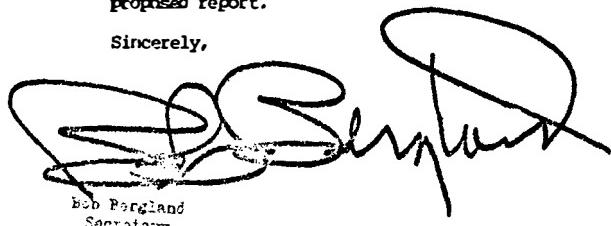
- 2 We made these changes.
- 3 We made this change.
- 4 We deleted the sentence.
- 5 We made these changes.
- 6 We introduced this information.
- 7 We revised the paragraph.
- 8 We clarified this point.
- 9 We have clarified the point; such authority cannot be exercised on private land, but can voluntarily be exercised on the public lands by their managers.

Comments

- 10 On page 210, the second paragraph fails to clarify the rather complex and confusing applicability of the mining laws relative to the various sections of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and other statutes. The referenced management, as provided in Section 9b of the Act, appears irrelevant to post designation administration since Section 9b pertains only to interim or temporary withdrawals of "study" rivers listed in Section 5a. In addition, even if Section 9b were applicable after designation, the portion of the river in Utah which includes all of the National Forest segments would not be affected, as only the portion in Colorado was listed in Section 5a. In reality, the effect of Section 9 of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act relative to the National Forest lands involved appears redundant, since the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area legislation provides essentially the same protection.
- 11 Page 224, middle paragraph, the 20,000 user days referred to is not, per se, identified in the current management plan or elsewhere as any kind of target or trigger. Present plans are to continue to monitor and evaluate use levels and patterns, and take appropriate action when the need arises, but not tied to any given user-day level. The 20,000 recreation days reference occurs again on page 244, paragraph 2. It would be more accurate to say, "may be imposed," rather than "will be imposed."
- 12 Page 226, paragraph 2, the surfacing work mentioned will be on parking spurs for family units and picnic areas, not the family units themselves.
- 13 Page 245 appears to be out of place. The first partial paragraph does not connect with page 244, and the rest of the page repeats page 244.

We appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on your proposed report.

Sincerely,



Bob Bergland
Secretary

Responses

- 10 As you point out, Section 9(b) deals with study rivers. Section 9(a) deals with designated rivers. We clarified this point.
- 11 We made these changes.
- 12 We alleviated the ambiguity.
- 13 We corrected this error.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

Comments

Responses

Honorable Robert L. Herbst
Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks
U. S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Herbst:

This is in response to your recent request for comments of the Department of the Army on your proposed report and draft environmental statement for the wild and scenic rivers study of the Green and Yampa Rivers, Colorado and Utah.

The draft report recommends that 91 miles of the Green River between the Forest Service Spillway boat ramp below Flaming Gorge Dam and the southern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument, and 47 miles of the Yampa River between the eastern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument and the confluence with the Green River should be designated as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The report recommends specific segments for scenic, recreational, and wild river classifications.

There are no projects or anticipated water resource developments of the Department of the Army in the Green/Yampa River area that would be affected by the wild and scenic river proposals. Further, the river reaches are not navigable waterways of the United States. We do have regulatory jurisdiction over the Green and Yampa Rivers under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344). Designation of portions of these rivers under the Wild and Scenic River Act should not impact upon our regulatory mission.

We have no comments to provide on the alternative actions and other aspects of the report or on the draft environmental statement.

I appreciate this opportunity to review your proposed report and draft environmental statement.

Sincerely,

Michael Blumenfeld
Assistant Secretary of the Army
(Civil Works)



Department Of Energy

Western Area Power Administration
P.O. Box 11606
Salt Lake City, Utah 84147

Comments

Responses

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
655 Parfet Street
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir:

We have reviewed the Draft Environmental Statement--Green and Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers (DES 79-48), dated April 30, 1979---and would like to offer the following comments thereon.

The report does not adequately address:

- 31
1. The impact on the availability of the water supply to maintain the recommended flows in the Green River. The period 1970 through 1975 is not representative of the available water supply, and does not reflect adverse water conditions.
 2. The effect of the proposal on power generation at Flaming Gorge and the resulting effect on revenues required to repay the costs of the Colorado River Storage Project and participating projects.
 3. The Presidential Proclamation which designated Dinosaur National Monument, and particularly the Amendment thereto of July 14, 1938, which expanded the Monument boundaries, provided for certain reservoir and power development within said boundaries of the Monument.
 4. The effect the proposed Wild and Scenic Rivers designation would have on future development (such as oil shale, coal reserves, steam-driven power plant(s), and increased population--all requiring a water supply from the Green and/or Yampa Rivers) adjacent to or above the area.
 5. The need for additional flow in the river for boating and recreation. It is our understanding that previous release patterns from Flaming Gorge Reservoir have satisfied the majority of boating and recreation requirements.

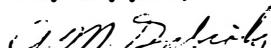
- 1 The period between 1970 and 1975 is, according to the USGS, within 3% of the long-term averages for flows of the rivers. We stated that the recommendation for minimum flows was only a suggested guideline, not a part of the proposal, and that it was to be further considered and, if appropriate, negotiated during the management planning period. In that these flows will probably be determined by the outcome of federal reserved water rights, we have deleted our flows recommendations in the Final Report. Also see response #1 to the Department of Agriculture.
- 2 These effects, if any, are not effects of the proposal, but of a recommendation whose feasibility is not known, and will not be known until the matter can be further investigated. Again, however, please note that we have altered our discussion of this item, and deleted flows recommendations as noted above.
- 3 The Proclamation which enlarged the Monument in 1938 recognized these prior withdrawals. As we pointed out in the report, these withdrawals have since been revoked.
- 4 We addressed these matters on pages 226-240 of the Draft Environmental Statement, but have made several changes in response to comments by other reviewers. However, as we have pointed out, it is impossible to make any exacting assessment of these river designation impacts at this time due in part to the uncertain outcome of federal reserved water rights litigation and other ongoing federal studies--contingencies that will probably determine Yampa River flow levels and ultimate impacts on water. Also, see response #6 to the Upper Colorado River Commission.
- 5 Except perhaps for fisheries, there is no need for additional flow in the river, but present release patterns have not provided optimum boater satisfaction as we noted on page 65. This conclusion is strongly supported by the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and National Park Service offices that manage the Green River corridor.

Comments

- 6** 6. The effect the Wild River designation would have on the future supply of energy, when the river could possibly be used as a renewable resource.
- 7** 7. The value of recreation versus power, future water uses, mineral and other developments, and other losses to the nation.

We feel the aforementioned items should more fully be addressed before a final environmental statement is issued.

Very truly yours,



A. M. Gabiola
Area Manager

Responses

- 6** See response #4.

- 7** We used the standard techniques for putting economic values on recreation, as well as on other services and products, in the Principles and Standards Analysis, as is required. The "value" of river preservation, which cannot be measured in dollars, will ultimately be compared to the value of other uses of these resources by the Congress and the President through the decisions made to designate or not to designate the river segments. We presented several alternatives to our designation proposal to aid in this decision-making process.

Comments

Responses



Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20585

DEC 5 1979

Honorable Cecil D. Andrus
Secretary of the Interior
18th & E Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Secretary:

This is in response to a letter from Robert Herbst, Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks to former Secretary Schlesinger requesting a review by the Department of Energy (DOE) of the Department of the Interior's (DOI's) draft wild and scenic river study and draft environmental statement (ES) supporting the proposed designation of segments of the Green and Yampa Rivers as "wild and scenic rivers" within the meaning of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Besides the general comments mentioned below, our technical comments are also enclosed for your consideration.

33

- 1 o As indicated in Chapters II and VIII of the document, current and future coal development in the Yampa Basin near Craig, Colorado, potential hydro power/water storage projects in the Yampa Basin, shale resource development in the Piceance Basin and coal, uranium, shale and oil/gas development above Flaming Gorge Reservoir in Southern Wyoming all may affect the flow and quality of water of the wild and scenic river study area. Conversely, the proposed designation could affect the energy initiatives outlined above. As a result, DOE believes that any final designation should be postponed until the nature of these impacts has been fully detailed, especially in regard to how the proposed designation might constrain energy development in the study area.
- 2 o On page 248 of the draft ES, it is stated that future power lines, gas pipelines and other energy facilities may have to be rerouted or placed in other areas due to the proposed designation of both the Green and Yampa River segments under study. Before any final designation is made, a more detailed review of the proposed designation on energy development regarding the above mentioned potential relocations and reroutings is needed.

1 See the statement titled "Position of the Secretary of the Interior" at the front of this document. The Secretary is recommending deferral of designation until the outcome of several issues that interrelate with potential wild and scenic river designation impacts can be better determined. One of the issues the Secretary believes needs better definition is the need for Yampa basin water for energy development.

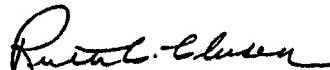
2 If new information on proposed energy transmission facilities has been developed and is made available to us, it will be treated in the supplemental report and environmental statement that the Secretary of the Interior proposes be prepared prior to an Administration recommendation for designation. However, detailed decisions and recommendations regarding the placement of such facilities is appropriate for and must be covered in the wild and scenic river management plan, which is prepared following designation. Please note that the final environmental statement says that these facilities "may have to be located in existing utility corridors, placed underground, or rerouted and kept completely out of all or portions of the river corridor." Impacts on the river and river corridor will have to be determined as specific proposals are advanced. Location, type of facility, design, and the potential for screening will be considered in determining whether and how the river can be crossed or crossed under. We do not expect managing agencies to be unreasonable in regulating this situation; their overall objective will be to minimize adverse impacts on the river and shore environment.

Comments

Responses

Until the above uncertainties are resolved, DOE is opposed to the implementation of the proposed alternative for designation. DOE, however, could be receptive to an alternative which did not include any Yampa River Basin designation at this time provided that in regard to the Green River segments under study, any significant rerouting and/or relocating of other potential energy facilities does not occur.

Sincerely,



Ruth C. Clusen
Assistant Secretary
for Environment

Enclosure

335

- o The indicated limiting possibilities for coal gasification development on p. 229 appear quite conservative (i.e., the equivalent of five 250 million cubic feet per day plants). Recent (draft) studies performed for DOE by the Water Resources Council (WRC) indicate that perhaps two such plants might occur in the Green and Yampa Basins of Utah and Colorado by the year 2000 under an assumed accelerated growth scenario. In addition, the indicated 130,000 acre feet per year (AF/yr) consumptive requirements for the five plants is quite conservative; actual consumption for five plants should be well less than half that value depending on specific plant characteristics. Although the actual course of development cannot be predicted and the potential water requirements for coal development are probably less than the 13% of total Yampa flow indicated on p. 230, DOE believes that additional consideration in this area regarding future energy needs is desirable before acting on the proposed designation.
- 3
- o The indicated value of 5.25×10^8 kilowatt hours (kwh) per ton of coal on p. 227 is inconsistent with other values indicated. This, however, will probably not change the conclusion that adequate power generation for mining will be available through existing or planned non-hydro plants.
- 335
- o It should also be noted that pp. 234-236 discuss upstream effects that might influence the designated area (see also p. 260). The DOE/WRC draft study also postulates oil shale development in the Green River Basin in Wyoming of about 140,000 barrels per day (see also p. 29, re: coal development). Whether or not such potential development could have an unreasonably adverse effect on the designated area is not clear (because of the intervening Flaming Gorge Reservoir), but should also be examined further before actual designation.
- 4
- o It is indicated on p. 230 that the main development of oil shale is likely to use water from the White River as the nearest source. This appraisal is consistent with

Comments

Responses

DOE TECHNICAL COMMENTSON PROPOSED GREEN/YAMPA WILD/SCENIC DESIGNATION

- 3 See response #1. Future energy needs will be up for additional consideration before the proposed designation is recommended to Congress for action.

- 4 Under "Impacts on Upstream Development Projects" in the FES, we have stated "Because of the barrier effect of Flaming Gorge Dam on the Green River, no impacts of the proposed action on upstream water development projects on this river are foreseen. This also applies to other projects that might depend on the Green River for water supply or hydropower." We have re-examined this matter and found no reason to change our conclusion. Development projects above Flaming Gorge Dam and Reservoir will not be affected by designation.

Comments

- 5 the above noted DOE/WRC draft study, which indicated that up to a 1.8 million barrels per day industry might occur in the White Basin (under accelerated development conditions) and could be supported only by adding significant new water storage capability. If there should be difficulties in providing such storage, the possibility of transbasin diversion from the Yampa (p. 231), due to the proposed designation, might then adversely affect energy development. As indicated previously, DOE is very sensitive to the possibility of this occurrence and as such, DCE believes this issue needs to be studied and addressed thoroughly.
- 6 o The report explains away the potential impact of energy development on water quality in the study area by stating that energy projects must meet water quality and discharge standards as specified in the Clean Water Act. Even though this may be the case, present discharge standards may not be adequate to maintain the current pristine water quality in the study area. Thus, the report should discuss the impact on water quality by energy development and also how designation may constrain energy development in this respect.
- 7 o The estimated water usage for the 1.8 million barrels per day level in the DOE/WRC draft study is 240,000 AF/yr including ancillary development; the lower end of the range of water requirements indicated on p. 230 (i.e., 150,000 AF/yr) therefore seems the more likely value for the Department of Interior study of 1 million barrels per day.

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Responses

- 5 Again, please refer to "The Position of the Secretary of the Interior" at the front of this document, and to the discussion of proposed oil shale development in the "Impacts" section of the final statement. Please understand, however, that while there are many actions that might take place in the future that could be impacted by wild and scenic river designation to some degree, we must be concerned with the reasonably likely possibilities; these we believe we have recognized. If a viable proposal is made for the use of Yampa basin water for White River basin oil shale development, the impacts that would probably result from river designation will be assessed.
- 6 You raise an interesting point; however, we must point out that in the absence of other information on likely future conditions and developments, we must assess specific proposals. However, in this case we believe that present water quality and discharge standards are adequate to maintain water quality as high or higher than that required for wild and scenic river purposes. Of course, we anticipate managing agencies working with the Environmental Protection Agency and the state to help ensure this will be the case.
- 7 We agree and have modified the footnote that appeared on page 221 in the environmental statement portion of the draft document.



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VIII
1860 LINCOLN STREET
DENVER, COLORADO 80205

SEP 24 1979

Ref: 8W-EE

Mr. Glen T. Bean
Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
655 Parfet Street
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Mr. Bean:

The Region VIII Office of the Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the draft wild and scenic river report and environmental statement for the Green-Yampa Rivers Study. EPA supports the inclusion of these study areas in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system.

We concur with the recommendation that Segment A, Green River be classified scenic; that Segment C, Green River be classified wild; and that Segment D, Yampa River be classified wild.

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We do not concur in the recommended classification of Segment B (Browns Park), Green River as recreational. From the information presented in the EIS, we recommend a scenic classification for Segment B. The information in the EIS indicates that there is little difference in the impact on mining or water resource development between designating Segment B as recreational or scenic. However, designating Segment B as scenic as opposed to recreational does have environmental advantages by improving air quality, water quality and fish and wildlife values. We would like an explanation in the final EIS of your rationale for classifying Segment B recreational rather than scenic.

In accordance with our criteria for rating EIS's, this document has been categorized as ER-1. Briefly, this means that we have environmental reservations concerning the selected alternative and that the information presented is adequate. Please send five copies of the final EIS as soon as it is available.

Sincerely yours,

Roger L. Williams
Regional Administrator

Comments

Responses

1 We have reexamined the matter and have recommended a scenic classification for the Browns Park segment.

ORRIN G. HATCH
UTAH
6317 DERNIER SOUTHE OFFICE BUILDING
TELEPHONE: (202) 224-4251
HATCH HOT LINE: 1-(800)-422-4250
(UTAH TOLL FREE)

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

Comments
COMMITTEE
JUDICIARY
HUMAN RESOURCES
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE
OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY
ASSESSMENT

Responses

November 9, 1979

Mr. Glen Bean
Regional Director
National Park Service
655 Parfaet Street
PO Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Mr. Bean:

- 1 This letter is written in response to a specific difficulty that has arisen as a result of the "Green and Yampa Rivers Wild and Scenic Rivers" draft ES. The matter concerns a private land holding in segment B of the study area, now owned by Mr. William Allen. It is my understanding that the lands in question include river-front property and are bordered on all sides by the Brown's Park National Wildlife Refuge.
- 2 Mr. Allen and members of his family have contacted me relative to the impacts that alternatives A, B and C, would have on the continued uninterrupted enjoyment of these lands which they have had for several years. In an effort to better understand this matter I have read in detail the materials provided in the draft statement and found that subsequent to that study, I still could not properly answer their concern. For that reason, I would appreciate your careful and detailed review of this issue, and some additional comments to those contained in the draft ES which would illustrate the effect that scenic or recreational designation of segment B would have on their ability to use and manage these lands with the freedom they have come to expect.

W
88

May I emphasize that I have been informed that Mr. Allen's holdings continue to be among the most scenic along that section of the Green and that, in fact, those fields he has under cultivation see as much wildfowl use as any within the refuge. It is my view that those facts, the Allen's continued commitment to true environmental protection, should weigh heavily in any designation which would reduce their peaceful enjoyment.

- 3 Additionally, I am enclosing a brief communication I have received from Mr. Allen. This letter describes several

1 The lands in question are within the study area, but are bordered by land administered by The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, not the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

2 The BLM recently stated that under a recreational classification it would not seek a scenic easement from Mr. Allen unless the agency becomes aware of a proposed development that would degrade the river's values. This was the information conveyed to you in an earlier response to your letter. Since that time, due to the support for a scenic classification in the review comments we received, the Brown Park segment classification issue was reexamined, and the segment was recommended for a scenic classification. As a result, we believe it probable that the BLM will seek a scenic easement from the Allens. However, as we have pointed out in our report, this would not affect existing uses of the property or future uses that do not degrade the river's values. Therefore, we seriously doubt that designation, as proposed, would reduce the Allen's "peaceful enjoyment" of their property.

3 The enclosure was not received so we were unable to determine the nature of these commitments. However, we do not believe that wild and scenic river designation will present a conflict.

Comments

Responses

Nov. 9, 1979
Mr. Glen Bean
page two

commitments made to the Allens by the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Fish and Wildlife Service. It is my view, that the Federal Government, and all of its agencies, have a clear and compelling obligation to honor those commitments. I want you to know that I will work to see that they are honored.

I appreciate your attention to this issue. I recognize that it is a difficult one, particularly since you are now receiving hundreds of comments on the draft ES. Nevertheless, I trust this matter will receive the careful attention of a trusted member of your staff and that you will review this issue on my behalf.

Thank you again for your help.

Yours very truly,


Orrin G. Hatch

United States Senator

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OGH/dd

cc: William Whalen
Lucile M. Fleming
Ben Zerbe

Comments

Responses



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

AUG 17 1979

Mr. Robert Herbst
Assistant Secretary for Fish,
Wildlife and Parks
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Herbst:

This is in response to your letter to former Secretary Adams inviting our review of your draft report and draft environmental impact statement on the proposed Green and Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers.

This office has no comments to offer on these reports. We are forwarding the documents to the Secretary's Regional Representative in Denver for his consideration. His comments, if any, will be sent directly to you.

Thank you for the opportunity to review these reports.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin Convisser".

Martin Convisser, Director
Office of Environment and Safety

Comments

Responses

UPPER COLORADO RIVER COMMISSION

355 South Fourth East Street
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

September 27, 1979

Mr. Glen Bean
Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Mr. Bean:

We have reviewed the draft Wild and Scenic River Study and the draft Environmental Statement on the Green and Yampa Rivers, dated June 1979, and we have the following comments:

341 1 Page 8: The recommendation for minimum flows in the Green River below Flaming Gorge Dam of 1600 cfs, May 15 - September 15, and 800 cfs for the rest of the year is unreasonable. To release flows of this magnitude might reduce the dependable usable capacity of the powerplant to less than half that presently installed, and would make it difficult, if not impossible, to maintain minimum flows above 400 cfs during critical periods. The recommended minimum flows would reduce repayment ability drastically, and would interfere with Wyoming's ability to develop the water apportioned to it by the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact. Only in two years during the period 1929-1962 do the records indicate that the unregulated Green River would have sustained the recommended 1600 cfs flows May 15 - September 15.

Additionally, we call your attention to the fact that the draft Environmental Statement fails to adequately assess the operation of Flaming Gorge Reservoir for the primary purposes for which it was constructed, namely, river regulation and the holdover storage to meet Colorado River Compact delivery at Lee Ferry while allowing the State of Wyoming to develop its share of the water allocated by the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact. These primary purposes make it impractical to maintain the recommended flows set forth in this study during critical periods. To do so creates the possibility of impairing the dependable usable capacity of the powerplant by one-half of that presently installed. Such flows would render obsolete the concept being now studied, looking toward adding additional generating capacity to the outlet works. The proposed guaranteed minimum flows seek to divert the Flaming Gorge reservoir from its original purposes to a reservoir for the sole purpose of maintaining some minimum flows through the proposed river reserved areas.

1 Establishing higher minimum flows would have no effect on the nameplate capacity of the generation works at the dam since this was fixed at installation. It would not affect the total amount of power generated, since this is a function of installed capacity, total head, and water supply. It might, however, by altering the times of day or year when power was generated, change the dollar value of the power generated, and consequently change the operation of other CRSP projects.

The recommendation was for minimum flows to be discussed and obtained, if possible, during the management planning period. As we pointed out, this may not be possible due to the Water and Power Resources Service's (WPRS) operating constraints, but it is desirable from a recreation, aesthetic, and ecological standpoint. Since this recommendation was apparently misconstrued as an attempt to force WPRS to change the operation of Flaming Gorge Dam, which we cannot and have not intended to do, we have revised our discussion of this matter. The Final Report now calls for the management planning team to more precisely determine the downstream flow needs for recreation and ecological purposes. The determinations that are made can then be presented to WPRS so they can be considered at such time as the Flaming Gorge Project operation is reexamined.

Comments

Mr. Glen Bean
September 27, 1979
Page Two

The study and impact statement totally fails to recognize the present legal constraints set forth in compacts and congressionally enacted legislation, which we insist must be followed.

- 2 On page 9, the footnote statement is misleading and untrue. The Bureau of Reclamation does not seek to maintain 1200 cfs as normal minimum daytime flows. The Bureau does attempt to maintain a daytime summer flow of 800 cfs, although this is not always maintainable.
- 3 Page 144, third paragraph: The statement that "the bonytail chub has declined drastically since the closing of Flaming Gorge Dam" is misleading, implying that Flaming Gorge Dam is the cause of the decline. Prior to the closing of the Dam, the fish agencies placed large quantities of rotenone in the Green River for the expressed purpose of destroying the bonytail chub and the suckers so a prime trout fishery could be established in the river and the reservoir. In this effort they were successful, and this is a major factor in these trash fish now being few in number.
- 4 On page 269, we question whether the National Economic Development Alternative addresses the true spirit of the NED objectives by using the No Action Alternative as the NED Alternative. The NED plan could just as well address the development of study area resources for hydroelectric energy development.

We would make the following general comments:

342 5 It appears to us that this study is biased toward developing all means of insuring that its recommendations are considered and acted upon. The underlying thesis of the study is that all future development must be stopped. We support this statement by calling attention to the fact that the report seems to be saying that if the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act is not adequate to stop development, reliance can be placed upon the Endangered Species Act. (See p. 183 - see also p. 251.)

- 6 Along this same line, we call your attention to the fact that there is a notable lack of detail in discussing some of the serious impacts which will result from the implementation of the recommendations. The plan, without a doubt, will have serious and significant adverse impact on agriculture by preventing future irrigation development in the Yampa River Basin. At p. 251, under "Unavoidable Adverse Environmental Impacts," the statement is made that the recommended plan will cause "some minor unavoidable adverse environmental impacts." It is impossible to call the loss of future hydropower, irrigation, and municipal and industrial water uses in the Yampa drainage "minor unavoidable adverse impacts." The loss of any one of these possible uses of the Yampa River would be major and should be treated and

Responses

- 2 You are correct; we have modified the footnote. The WPRS, at the time that statement was written, was maintaining a summer minimum flow of 1,200 cfs, but we have been informed they will not necessarily do so in the future.
- 3 See response #6 to George Christopoulos. Rotenone's effect is temporary; had the post-dam environment suited the fish it is reasonable to assume they would have returned when it dissipated. This action, incidentally, was taken in the early 1960's--well before passage of the Endangered Species Act.
- 4 As we explained in the draft, we cannot make alternative plans that would be impossible to implement; development of the Dinosaur National Monument resources is not an alternative we can plan. We could not get information on plans to develop the resources of Segments A and B, nor would such plans be in consonance with present management of those segments. Also, as we stated in the draft report and impact statement, insufficient information was available on projects to develop an alternative based on water resources development.
- 5 Stating the contents of an act, and the impacts caused by implementation of that act, does not seem to us "biased." The objective of the proposal is to preserve and protect the river study segments; an effect may be to limit upstream development if that development unreasonably diminishes the values for which the river is designated. What the draft said was that the Endangered Species Act "is expected to be the instrument that limits or modifies major water project development in the Yampa Basin" (page 183). That statement was made in an attempt to clarify the relationship between the Endangered Species Act and the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act; the report was revised to point out the fact that each act functions independently of the other, so our proposal cannot invoke the protective powers of the Endangered Species Act. We have also revised the report to discuss the effects of adjudication of federal reserved water rights for Dinosaur National Monument, which could also impact upstream development.
- 6 We altered the sentence in question to state that the minor unavoidable adverse environmental impacts would be in the corridor. The proposal would not affect existing agriculture. As you point out, future agricultural development could be impacted. The extent of this impact is unknown--the River District has not included irrigation in its present version of the Juniper-Cross Mountain Project, and the WPRS version of this project has been shelved at present due in part to questions about the feasibility of irrigation benefits from the project.

You are correct in pointing out that the loss of future hydropower, irrigation, and municipal and industrial water uses would be a major impact on the (human or economic) environment. We have modified the paragraph in question to make it clear that the resources which would support such development would be preserved by the proposal, and therefore available should Congress choose to lift the

Comments

Mr. Glen Bean
September 27, 1979
Page Three

6 analyzed as such in this report in order to fairly apprise the decision-makers of the consequences of the proposed action.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this study.

Very truly yours,

Paul L. Billhyzer
Paul L. Billhyzer
Acting Executive Director

PLB:hiw

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Responses

6 designation. We have altered the statement to make it clear that these development opportunities would not be lost, but deferred.

We agree that some of the impacts of the proposal were not treated in as much detail as would be desirable. In such a case, we are required (see section 1502.22 of the CEQ regulation) to perform a "worst-case analysis." In the instant case, to have determined the specific impacts of the proposal on the variety of proposed non-Federal projects in the upper Yampa basin would have required the National Park Service in effect to design them, including their operation, and obtain commitments from the project sponsors that these designs and operating schedules would be adhered to, before we could assess the impacts of the proposal on them (none of the sponsors has completely designed or made available complete information on the projects in question). In addition, water project development could be affected by the outcome of litigation to obtain federal reserved water rights, as well as the outcome of Fish and Wildlife Service studies to determine the requirements of endangered fish, and BLM wilderness inventory and study in the Cross Mountain area.

We thus concluded (1) that a worst-case analysis was required, and (2) that the risk of going ahead with this proposal was minimal, since at worst development opportunities, as explained above, are deferred but not lost. Secretarial determinations under Section 7 of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act cannot be made until pending litigation and studies are completed and project sponsors prepare and make available the information necessary to evaluate the projects.

Comments

Responses



UPPER COLORADO RIVER COMMISSION

355 South Fourth East Street
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

November 20, 1979

Bon. William J. Whalen
Director
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Director Whalen:

The Upper Colorado River Commission, at a Special Meeting held November 16, 1979, in Denver, Colorado, adopted the enclosed Resolution and directed the undersigned to distribute a copy to you.

Very truly yours,

Paul L. Billhymer
Paul L. Billhymer
Acting Executive Director

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PLB:hiw

Enclosure

Comments

Responses

**RESOLUTION
of
UPPER COLORADO RIVER COMMISSION**

WHEREAS, the National Park Service, in cooperation with the Colorado Department of Natural Resources and the Utah Department of Natural Resources has prepared a "Draft Wild and Scenic River Study" and a "Draft Environmental Statement" dated June 1979, and under this plan the Green River from Flaming Gorge to the Indian Crossing would be designated as a Scenic River and the Green River from the Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore would be designated as a Recreation River and the Green River and Yampa River within Dinosaur National Monument would be classified as Wild Rivers; and

WHEREAS, it is proposed to increase water releases from Flaming Gorge for recreation purposes, thereby adversely affecting the operation of the Colorado River to accomplish the purposes as set forth in the Upper Colorado River Storage Project Act and other Federal Acts and compacts associated with the river; and

WHEREAS, water is essential to develop the resources of the States of the Upper Colorado River Basin and such designations would adversely affect the opportunities for the States of said Basin to develop their water resources; and

WHEREAS, the proposal would interfere with water rights of some of the States of the Upper Colorado River Basin; and

WHEREAS, the proposal would establish further Federal controls and regulations which are unneeded;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Upper Colorado River Commission at a Special Meeting in Denver, Colorado on November 16, 1979 that since the designation would be adverse to the economic and social welfare of the citizens of the States of the Upper Colorado River Basin, the Commission opposes the designation as proposed in the study and environmental statement and so now notifies the National Park Service;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be circulated to the Governors of the States of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming; the Congressional delegations of the States of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming; the Colorado Department of Natural Resources; the Colorado Water Conservation Board; the Colorado River Water Conservation District; the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission; the Utah Department of Natural Resources; the Utah Division of Water Resources; the Uintah Water Conservancy District; the Wyoming Water Development Commission; the Secretary of the Interior; and the Director of the National Park Service.

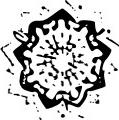
CERTIFICATE

I, PAUL L. BILLHYMER, Acting Executive Director of the Upper Colorado River Commission, do certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted in substance by the Upper Colorado River Commission at a Special Meeting held in Denver, Colorado on November 16, 1979.

WITNESS my hand this 19th day of November, 1979.

Paul L. Billhymer
PAUL L. BILLHYMER
Acting Executive Director

COMMENTS FROM STATE AGENCIES



**Department of Local Affairs
Colorado Division of Planning**

Philip H. Schmuck, Director



Richard D. Lamm, Governor

September 12, 1979

Responses

National Park Service
Rocky Mountain Region
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

SUBJECT: Draft Green and Yampa Wild and Scenic River
Report and Environmental Statement

Dear Sir:

348

The Colorado Clearinghouse has received the above-referenced document and has distributed it to interested State agencies. Comments received from the Health Department, the State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Division of Water Resources are enclosed for your information. Please note that while these agencies have submitted technical comments for your use, the Office of the Governor is still reviewing the report and has not made an official statement on it as of this date.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to review this matter.

Sincerely,

SO Ellis
Stephen O. Ellis
Chief Planner

SE/MK/vt
Enclosures

cc: Office of the Governor
Department of Health
Colorado Historical Society
Department of Natural Resources
Colorado Water Conservation Board
Colorado West Area Council of Governments

Comments

Responses



COLORADO
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

August 10, 1979

The Colorado Heritage Center 1300 Broadway Denver, Colorado 80203

Mr. Stephen O. Ellis
Principal Planner
Department of Local Affairs
Colorado Division of Planning
520 Centennial Building
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Green and Yampa Rivers - Draft Environmental Statement and
Wild and Scenic River Study, U.S. Forest Service

Dear Mr. Ellis:

This office has received and reviewed the Green and Yampa Rivers
Draft Environmental Statement and Wild and Scenic River Study, USFS.

346 We appreciate the Forest Service's consideration of cultural
resources within Colorado which are a fragile, limited source of valuable
information about man and his patterns of adaptation. Many of
these resources have been preserved by virtue of their isolation.
These resources may become endangered through increased visitation and
the resultant souvenir collecting.

1 Since a 100 percent Cultural Resource Survey has not been completed
in a sensitive archaeological and historical resource area, the Forest
Service, to be in compliance with the National Historic Preservation
Act and Executive Order 11593, should conduct such a survey to identify
significant resources during the Comprehensive Management Planning
Phase.

If this office can be of further assistance, please contact Betty
LeFree, Head of Compliance (Office of the State Archaeologist), at
839-3391.

Sincerely,

Arthur C. Townsend
State Historic Preservation Officer

ACT(BJL):ng
cc: B.Rippeau, State Archaeologist
J.Hartmann, Coordinator, Historic Preservation
S.Sigstad, USFS

1 We concur; see pages 217 and 247. We assume that by "Forest
Service" you mean the several agencies which manage lands along
the study reaches of the two rivers.

Comments

Responses



COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

4210 EAST 11TH AVENUE • DENVER, COLORADO 80220 • PHONE 320-8333
Frank Traylor, M.D., Executive Director

DATE: August 15, 1979

SUBJECT: NON-STATE ASSISTANCE

REVIEW AND COMMENTS

TO: Mr. Stephen O. Ellis,
Colorado Clearinghouse
Division of Planning

PROJECT TITLE: Wild and Scenic River D.E.I.S. - Green & Yampa Rivers
#79-130

STATE IDENTIFIER: NA

COMMENTS: WATER QUALITY CONTROL

The Water Quality Control Division concurs with designation of 138 miles of the Green and Yampa Rivers into the Wild and Scenic River System. The designation should help preserve existing water quality. The division also agrees with the Department of Natural Resources in preferring EQ Alternative 2.

Micki Barnes

Name, Title
Micki Barnes, Program Administrator

RICHARD D. LAMM
Governor



Comments

Responses

V.R. SMITH
Acting State Engineer

DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

Department of Natural Resources
1313 Sherman Street - Room 818
Denver, Colorado 80203
Administration (303) 839-3581
Ground Water (303) 839-3587

August 31, 1979

MEMORANDUM

TO: STEPHEN O. ELLIS, STATE CLEARINGHOUSE
FROM: DR. JERIS A. DANIELSON, DEPUTY STATE ENGINEER
SUBJECT: GREEN AND YAMPA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY AND
ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

35

This is to acknowledge receipt of your request for review of the above referenced project. We have no objections to the environmental statement at this time provided the project is operated in accordance with all applicable state water statutes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeris A. Danielson".

Jeris A. Danielson

JAD/JMS:mvf

Comments

Responses



STATE OF UTAH
 Scott M. Matheson, Governor
 DEPARTMENT OF
 DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
 Division of State History

August 27, 1979

Chairperson
 Environmental Coordinating Committee
 State Planning Office
 118 State Capitol
 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

Melvin T. Smith, Director
 Crane Building, Suite 1000
 307 West 2nd South
 Salt Lake City, Utah 84101
 Telephone (801) 333-5755

RE: Green and Yampa Rivers Environmental Statement, Multi County

Dear Chairperson:

The staff has reviewed the proposed project and concurs with recommendations/findings. If these procedures are followed, this project will have no known effect upon any potential or listed National Register historical, archeological or cultural sites. Please be advised, however, that should artifacts or cultural objects be discovered during the construction stage, it is the responsibility of the federal agency or community receiving block grant funds to notify this office immediately as provided for in the Utah State Antiquities Act of 1973 and Public Law 93-291.

Should you need assistance or clarification, please call or write James L. Dykman, Preservation Archeologist, or Wilson G. Martin, Preservation Development Coordinator, Utah State Historical Society, 307 West 200 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84101, 533-6017.

Sincerely,

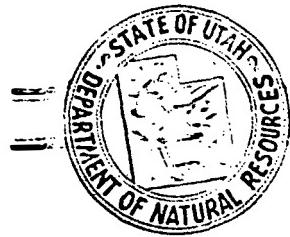
Melvin T. Smith
 Melvin T. Smith
 Director and
 State Historic Preservation Officer

WGM:br:C560:Multi

cc: Glen T. Bean, Regional Director, Rocky Mountain Region, National Park Service, P.O. Box 25287, Denver, Colorado 80225

(5) concur with findings/recommendations

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Comments

Gordon E. Harrison
Executive Director
Dept. of Natural Resources

Responses

Scott M. Matheson
Governor

DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

Suite 500
231 East 400 South
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111
Tel: (801) 533-5401

Daniel F. Lawrence
Director

BOARD OF WATER RESOURCES

Philip S. Knight
Chairman
Provo
(Provo)

December 14, 1979

Bill M. Gibson
Vice-Chairman
Vernal
(Green)

Mr. Benjamin J. Zerbe, Director
National Park Service
Room 2208, Federal Building
Salt Lake City, Utah 84138

John P. Holmgren
Bear River City
(Bear)

Dear Mr. Zerbe:

At the monthly meeting of the Utah Board of Water Resources held on October 4, 1979, the Board unanimously passed the enclosed resolution in opposition to the designation of the Green River in Utah for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System.

Your support in opposing this legislation would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Daniel F. Lawrence
Director

CCW
Edward H. Southwick
Ogden
(Weber)

Richard H. Moffat
Salt Lake City
(Salt Lake)

Quin T. Shepherd
Delta
(Sevier)

Clyde E. Conover
Farron
(Upper Colorado)

Roy P. Uriel
Ogden City
(Lower Colorado)

Enclosure

Comments

Responses

UTAH BOARD OF WATER RESOURCES

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The National Park Service in cooperation with the Colorado Department of Natural Resources and the Utah Department of Natural Resources has prepared a "Draft Wild and Scenic River Study" and a "Draft Environmental Statement" dated June 1979; and

WHEREAS, the study recommends that the 51 miles of the Green River, (part of which is in Utah), between the Forest Service spillway boat ramp and the southern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument be designated components of the National Wild and Scenic River System; and

1 WHEREAS, the recommended flow releases for recreation could conflict with Flaming Gorge Dam power generating and other river regulation requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Storage Project Act, Colorado River Compact, and other components of the Law of the River define the limits within which Flaming Gorge reservoir must be operated; and

WHEREAS, much of the time Flaming Gorge Reservoir can be operated in a manner which will enhance recreational and wildlife values and still meet the basic objectives for which it was built; and

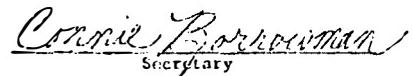
WHEREAS, the Utah Board of Water Resources has the power and duty to make recommendations on behalf of the State for any purpose which relates to the development, conservation, protection and control of the water and power resources of the State;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Utah Board of Water Resources opposes the designation of the Green River in Utah for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System, unless provisions are made to guarantee the continued operation of the Flaming Gorge Reservoir to meet its principal purposes of power production, river regulations, and long-term storage.

The resolution was unanimously passed by the Board of Water Resources in open public meeting held on October 4, 1979.


Daniel F. Lawrence
Director

ATTEST:


Connie Parchman
Secretary



THE STATE OF WYOMING

Comments

Responses

State Engineer's Office

BARRETT BUILDING **CHEYENNE, WYOMING 82002**
November 13, 1979

**ED HERSCHEL
GOVERNOR**

*Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225*

Dear Sir:

A copy of the draft Wild and Scenic River Study and draft environmental statement for the Green-Yampa Rivers dated June, 1979, was recently obtained and has been reviewed.

- 1 Although not included in the reaches of the Green and Yampa Rivers covered by the Study, the conclusions and recommendations reached would have a direct impact on the functions of the rivers in Wyoming. In this respect, no representative of this State participated in development of the report, nor were any comments requested from this area, as noted from the listing on pages 198 and 199. There are many activities that have an interest in the subject matter of the draft report, not the least of which are those located in the State of Wyoming.
 - 2 From review of the report, it is concluded that it is, in essence, incomplete, since only selected legislation was considered in the analysis. Any proposed action should be thoroughly assessed in relation to all pertinent existing regulations and legislation. Specifically by the provision of the Colorado River Compact and the Upper Colorado River Compact, Wyoming is granted the right to develop 14 percent of the water allocated to the Upper Colorado River Basin States, which right it is still intended to exercise.
 - 3 The flow regimes discussed on pages 8 and 9 do not appear realistic and should be correlated with the Bureau of Reclamation and Geological Survey to determine if they are consistent with actual flow potentials and requirements to maximize power production out of Flaming Gorge Dam.
 - 4 The discussion of Major Issues and Concerns, pages 17-21, implies the conclusion that no further water development could be implemented on the Yampa River or its tributaries. This would be in direct conflict with Wyoming's right to make further beneficial use of compact-allocated water.
 - 4 The tables for average monthly and annual flows on pages 40-41 would be of more value if they were of the form and extended over the periods utilized by other agencies for planning and other purposes.

୧୮

- ¹ See responses #1 and #3 to the Governor of Wyoming.

- 2** See response #4 to the Governor of Wyoming.

- 3** The discussion on these pages does not seem to us to imply that "no future water development could be implemented on the Yampa River and its tributaries." We stated on page 237 of the draft that ". . . wild and scenic designation may limit but will probably not eliminate additional water development in the Yampa Basin." See also the summary of impacts in the Final Report and Environmental Statement and response #2 to the Governor of Wyoming.

- 4 The Water Resources Division of the U.S. Geological Survey stated that these tables were within 3 percent of the long-time averages for the rivers. We agree that including the entire period of record for each station would be desirable, but have not done so for reasons of space and usefulness to a limited number of persons.

Comments

Responses

Regional Director
Page 2
November 13, 1979

- 5** In Table II-4, page 47, Item 18, the water right for the Sandstone Reservoir is not held by the Colorado River Water Conservation District, but has been assigned from the Bureau of Reclamation to the State of Wyoming.
- 6** On page 144, it is implied that the closing of the Flaming Gorge Dam was instrumental in the drastic decline of the bonytail club, which is not true, as the river at that time was treated to remove all trash fish to facilitate the establishment of a prime trout fishery in the river and reservoir.
- The priority objective to limit further water development, as evidenced in Chapter V, Findings and Recommendations and the DES Summary, pages 197, 198 and expecting the application of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, supplemented by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to achieve this objective, is concluded from the review. Irrigation, municipal, industrial and hydro-power water uses are of major importance in the Colorado River Basin and must be considered in proper perspective for implementation in the national, regional and local interests.
- 7** In Table 2, Appendix A, it is stated that the feasibility and benefits of potential developments and conflicts with the recommended alternative plan, EQI, for the Water Resource Development component are unknown. This component is considered to be of major importance and in certain cases, when properly evaluated, could preclude taking action toward implementing the recommended alternative, EQ-1.
- Due to the deficiencies in the report, it is not considered that it is an adequate document upon which to initiate action toward including the segments of the Green and Yampa Rivers studied in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System and does not address the conflict of such designation and the right of Wyoming to use its Compact-allocated waters.

Sincerely,

GEORGE L. CHRISTOPULOS
State Engineer

GLC/lbw
cc: Paul Cleary
State Planning Coordinator's Office
2320 Capitol Avenue
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

- 5** We have made this correction.

- 6** Vanicek, Kramer, and Franklin' stated in "Distribution of Green River Fishes in Utah and Colorado Following Closure of Flaming Gorge Dam," (Southwestern Naturalist, 14(3) p. 313) "It appears that the long-range ecological changes in the river have now over-ridden any short-term effects the pre-impoundment fish-control operations may have had on fish populations in the Green River below Flaming gorge Dam." See also Vanicek and Kramer (1969) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (1977). We have not changed our conclusion.

- 7** We are introducing new data we have received on certain of the projects, but there is still insufficient information on most upstream projects on which to prepare a detailed analysis or base a decision.

,COMMENTS FROM LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

ELMER GARRETT, PRESIDENT
FRED T. BAGGS, SECRETARY
AUGUST W. DOWDY, MEMBER
JAMES L. APPLEGATE, MEMBER
MARSHALL E. BROYLE, MEMBER

Comments

JAY L. ENDARD
DIRECTOR
RICHARD D. FISHER
OFFICE MANAGER
EARL L. LATHROP
ATTORNEY

Responses

Board of Public Utilities

Cheyenne Water and Sewer Departments

2100 PIONEER AVENUE
P. O. BOX 1466
CHEYENNE, WYOMING 82001
AREA CODE 307: 637-6460

October 12, 1979

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Re: Green - Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers Study

Dear Regional Director:

3 I have only recently learned of the existance of the Green-Yampa Wild and
Scenic Rivers Study. Therefore, I am sending my response to this study at this
5 time.
8

1 The City of Cheyenne constructed a Stage I water development project on
tributaries to the Little Snake River in 1963 and 1964. Stage I was the first
stage of a 3 stage master plan to develop Wyoming Water Use Permits for waters
of the Little Snake River. Cheyenne obtained the Stage I, Stage II and Stage
III permits from the office of the Wyoming State Engineer in 1961. However,
many of the permits have a priority date of 1954 because the City of Laramie had
acquired the permits at that early date. In 1961 the Cities of Cheyenne and
Laramie came to an agreement to share these water use permits.

The Stage I facility diverts about 7,400 acre feet of Little Snake River
water under the continental divide to the Platte River each year. The tunnel
under the continental divide, used to transport the Stage I water, was constructed
to a size large enough to carry Stage I flows plus the future flows of Stage II
(estimated at 23,000 acre feet per year). This tunnel has been in existance since
1963.

The Wyoming State Engineer issued the 1954 Water Use Permits to Laramie and
later to Cheyenne, because no other Wyoming water user had applied for the right
to use these waters of the Little Snake River and because the Colorado River
Compact allows for Wyoming to have the right to develop certain quantities of the
Little Snake River.

1 See response #2 to Governor Herschler.

Comments
Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
Cont. (Pg. 2)

Responses

Cheyenne has been in immediate pursuit of its Stage II water development project since 1976, when the Cheyenne Board of Public Utilities applied to the U.S. Forest Service for a special use permit to construct Stage II. There is also much discussion taking place between the City of Cheyenne and other Wyoming water users about the immediate development of the Stage III project, which could be used to develop about 30,000 acre feet of annual water yield for many Wyoming water users.

As the Green-Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers Study takes place, the final conclusion should assure that the ongoing Stage II and Stage III water development projects do not suffer any adverse effects. These projects have been part of an active water development Master Plan since 1961 and much has been invested as the pursued development continues. The Little Snake River is tributary to the Yampa River and no river use planning of any kind should hinder these projects.

Sincerely,

Herman Noe

Herman Noe
Assistant Director

ELMER JARRETT, PRESIDENT
FRED T. BIGGOS, SECRETARY
AUBURN W. DOWDY, MEMBER
JAMES L. APPLEGATE, MEMBER
MARSHALL E. BROYLES, MEMBER

Comments

Responses

RAY L. SHERARD
DIRECTOR
TIMOTHY E. WILSON
OFFICE MANAGER
CARL L. LATHROP
ATTORNEY

Board of Public Utilities

Cheyenne Water and Sewer Departments

1100 PIONEER AVENUE
P. O. BOX 1460
CHEYENNE, WYOMING 82001
AREA CODE 307: 637-6460

October 22, 1979

Regional Director, Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir:

360
The Board of Public Utilities of the City of Cheyenne has reviewed the draft of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Study and the draft of the environmental statement of the Green and Yampa Rivers. We have also consulted with our engineers and I am sure by now you had received their comments.

1 Your study has not taken into consideration the fact that the Cheyenne water facilities lie in the Little Snake drainage which is a tributary to the Yampa River. The City of Cheyenne has for many years had vested water rights and has been developing them over a period of years. At the present time, we are proceeding to develop the second stage of the project. It must be remembered that these water rights were legally acquired from the State of Wyoming and is part of the apportioned water under the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact.

Although we commonly refer to this water project as the "Cheyenne Project", the 1979 Wyoming legislature actually made this a state-wide Wyoming water project. Geographically and population wise, almost fifty percent of the people of Wyoming will be affected and benefited by stages II and III.

In view of the critical water shortage in south-central

1 See response #2 to Governor Herschler.

Comments

Responses

Regional Director, Rocky Mountain Region
October 22, 1979
page 2

Wyoming, it would be a severe blow to the development of this project to follow the course of action which you have suggested.

Sincerely,



The signature is handwritten in black ink. It appears to read "Elmer F. Garrett".

EFG:vlg

cc: Ed Herschler, Governor

Floyd A. Bishop
Banner Associates, Inc.

Robert Johnson, Chairman
Wyoming Water Development Commission

City of Craig

300 WEST 4TH STREET

CRAIG, COLO. 81625

824-6560

September 18, 1979

Mr. Don Bock
Rocky Mtn. Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

RE: Draft Wild and Scenic River Study and Draft Environmental Statement: Green and Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Dear Mr. Bock:

The City of Craig requests that this letter be included in the above mentioned report concerning public comment.

362
1 The City of Craig is strongly opposed to the recommendations of this study, especially those that apply to the Yampa River. The study which recommends no water developments on the Yampa River, page 7, while only studying the effects of that recommendation in a very narrow area in and around the Dinosaur National Monument.

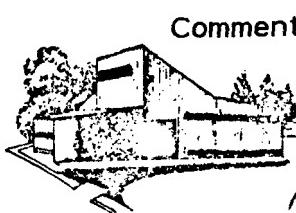
2 The study, which only superficially addressed the study area, did not in any way address what effects their recommendations may have on the communities of Craig, Hayden and Steamboat Springs. All of which are experiencing extremely rapid growth due to energy development in and around those communities.

3 The recommendation to prohibit development of any water project, such as Juniper-Cross Mountain, Sheephorn, or Oak Creek, has not only local and statewide impact but also national impact. If the United States is to have the energy it needs communities such as Craig are going to have to provide it and water is an essential component of a community such as Craig.

4 The City of Craig requests that since this study makes recommendations which effect the cities of Craig, Hayden, and Steamboat Springs. That those effects be delineated, which they have not been in this study, and too that those communities be allowed adequate time to respond to the findings of the study.

Sincerely,

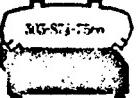
Jerry Thompson
Jerry Thompson
Mayor, City of Craig



Comments

Responses

- 1** The recommendation correctly restated the terms of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. However, since we have determined that the steps cited in this recommendation are Act requirements, we have removed it from the final report. Please note, however, that the recommendation did not recommend no water developments in the Yampa River.
- 2** We have expanded our treatment of impacts. To the extent we found possible, we have treated these impacts.
- 3** We have made no recommendations to "prohibit development of any water project. . . ."
- 4** We accepted comments through January 1980.

Comments	Responses
<p>city of delta</p> <hr/> <p>colorado 81416</p> <p>P. O. Box 19</p>	

November 9, 1979

Mr. Glen Bean, Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service
655 Parfet Street
Post Office Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Mr. Bean:

The City of Delta is a part of the Colorado River Water Conservation District. As a member, the City opposes the proposed inclusion of the Yampa River in the Wild and Scenic River program. The City also opposes the proposed wilderness designation being sought by the Bureau of Land Management.

As the demands for the energy resources of Western Colorado increases, this region will need to develop clean, renewable energy sources if we hope to provide the services necessary for resource development. The efforts of the Federal government to decrease energy dependence on foreign sources while at the same time eliminating valuable energy sources through wilderness and wild and scenic river designations does not make sense.

We are as vitally interested in the environment of Western Colorado as anyone. We do not want to become totally dependent upon coal-fired generation. The benefits of hydroelectric development are too important to eliminate it as a possible energy source.

Sincerely,


Dennis M. Kirtland
City Manager

DMK:mew

Mike Kelly
DIST. NO. 1
Rick Enstrom
DIST. NO. 2
MAXINE ALBERS
DIST. NO. 3

OFFICE OF
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MESA COUNTY
P.O. BOX 697
GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO 81502

Comments
GERALD ASHBY
ATTORNEY
Ted Ford
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Responses

November 13, 1979

Mr. Glen T. Bean, Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service
655 Parfet Street
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Re: Juniper-Cross Mountain
Hydroelectric Project

Dear Mr. Bean:

This letter is being written in wholehearted support of the Juniper-Cross Mountain Hydroelectric project just west of Craig, Colorado.

The water storage and power production benefits of this project will be beneficial to the entire West Slope as well as to the State of Colorado.

364
We submit that this area is being asked to meet a significant part of the nation's energy needs. The federal government appears to be willing to "fast track" development of those energy resources by cutting "red tape" to a minimum. It almost seems ludicrous to us to have all kinds of road blocks set in motion to delay a project so crucial to what already has been and will continue to be an impacted area. Water storage in an arid area and the desperately needed recreational areas ought to be as much of a concern as the need for energy. These concerns must go hand in hand and be allowed to proceed simultaneously, if we are to avoid getting everything out of balance. We know that the state and local governmental units can best meet the challenges and address the needs, if allowed to do so.

The fact that no government monies will be used to construct the project ought to weigh heavily on the side of minimal government interference. We strongly support the project and oppose the scenic and wild rivers designation of the Yampa River.

Sincerely,

Maxine Albers
Maxine Albers, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

MA:ke

Comments

Responses

MOFFAT COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

MOFFAT COUNTY
PHONE 824-5962 CRAIG, COLORADO 81625

September 24, 1979

Mr. Glen Bean
Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Re: Draft of Wild and Scenic River
Study - Green and Yampa Rivers

Dear Mr. Bean:

- 1 The Moffat County Planning Commission objects not only to the recommendations of the study team as to the Wild and Scenic Rivers (Green and Yampa Rivers), but also to the manner in which the study was conducted.

Two meetings on the matter were held in Craig - February 25, 1976 and October 5, 1976. Several members of the community asked to have their names placed on a mailing list and they were assured they would receive up-dates and progress reports. They received nothing.

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- 2 A joint Federal-State study team was organized in January, 1976. The team was aware - or should have been aware - that its report was to be submitted not later than October 2, 1979. The report (draft document) was to be subject to review by individuals and various agencies and groups. The draft statement was made available to the public on July 27, 1979, but the Moffat County Planning Department did not receive its two copies until August 8, 1979. No copies were sent to the library or to any one else until they were requested. The public was asked to have its comments returned by September 10, 1979 - a very short time to assess and analyze 330 pages of material so poorly written that in some parts it is almost incomprehensible.

- 3 The members of the study team stated that they did not want any public meetings.
4 The recommendations of the study team that the studied areas of the Green and the Yampa Rivers be designated Wild and Scenic is unacceptable. Flaming Gorge Dam does not preclude a Wild and Scenic designation on the Green River, beginning at its base, but such a designation inveighs against dams anywhere on the Yampa River.

- 5 On page 242 of the Study, the statement is made that increased recreationist expenditures would contribute \$27,000 annually to Craig, Vernal and Dutch John. Since white water rafting in the Monument and visitor's days in the wildlife refuge are already limited, it is unbelievable that there would be increased recreation expenditures.

1 After the data had been gathered for this study, there was essentially nothing to be said about it until the Formal Draft Report was ready for distribution. We did, however, circulate portions of all of two preliminary drafts and a partial draft to members of the study team. Some of this material was sent to a member of your own staff for review and comment; the assistance provided was quite helpful to us, and, we presumed, informative to you as to our progress on the study.

2 We agreed, at your request and that of others in the Craig area, to extend the public comment period, first to October 1, then to November 15, 1979. We actually took late comments through January of 1980.

3 There were two series of public meetings in 1976 and two meetings with the Moffat County Commissioners in 1979. We were of the opinion, not that public meetings were undesirable, but that they were an inefficient and inappropriate mechanism for gathering technical comment on an EIS. Therefore, we agreed to meetings with your County Commissioners and anyone they invited, while requesting that public comments be provided to us in writing. This approach was agreed to by the Commissioners.

4 Rivers are found eligible for the National System on the basis of their present values and their free-flowing character. Once designated, the values they offer at the time are protected. Our draft pointed out (1) that insufficient information on most of the upstream Yampa projects was available to determine what findings the Secretary would make about them in the event of designation, and (2) that the only projects which would be denied federal licensing or assistance after designation would be those which would "unreasonably diminish" the values present. The Department of the Interior Solicitor stated in a June 25, 1979, opinion (M36914) that designation vests the United States with a reserved water right. The quantification of such a right would be determined through normal state court procedures, and could be obtained only for waters that were unappropriated on the date of designation, in only that quantity sufficient for wild and scenic river purposes.

5 Visitor days in the Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge and on BLM, state, and Forest Service lands upstream, are not limited at present; increases are planned or allowed under several agency management plans. Those increases will result in increased recreation expenditures.

Mr. Glen Bean
September 24, 1979
Page Two

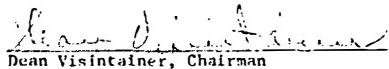
Comments

- 6** Endangered species are already protected. We are tired of protecting the blackfooted ferret, which no one has ever seen in this area (pages 59 and 241), and the southern bald eagle (page 59). Peterson's "A Field Guide to Western Birds" lists both the golden eagle and the bald eagle, but no 'southern' bald eagle.
- 7** We would like to be able to plan water diversions and improvements so that our citizens could drink, cook and keep clean. In an area growing as fast as Craig and Moffat County, using population projection figures of 1975 is as useless as using census figures of 1960 or 1970. The Colorado West Area Council of Government latest population projections, received by the Moffat County Planning Department in September, 1979, show County figures of 16,142 in 1980, 18,549 in 1982 and 22,019 by 1985.
- The table on page 193, showing only a bit over a mile of river in private hands, and all the rest under government jurisdiction (122.2 miles under the Department of Interior, alone), coupled with the statement on Page 20 that "administration will continue under existing agencies with no expected major changes in regulations or river uses" show that the rivers are already amply protected.
- 8** If the report has as many errors on subjects we are not familiar with as it does on things we do know about it is a questionable study. A City-County airport is located at Craig and there is a bus line to the south, as well as to the east and west (page 64). The major north-south route from Baggs, Wyoming to Rifle, Colorado, is State Highway No. 13 or 789, not Colorado 394 (page 62).
- 9** Major Powell went down the Green River in 1869 (page 97). The statement on page 153 that the Yampa River has especially rich archaeological deposits and the table on page 158 that Yampa River has no archaeological deposits are in direct conflict.

Due to the inaccuracies and inconsistencies in the study and the fact that the public has not been adequately informed and allowed ample time for input, we protest the designation of the Green and Yampa Rivers as "Wild and Scenic".

We request that this letter be made a part of the official record.

MOFFAT COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION


Dean Visintainer, Chairman

Responses

- 6** We eliminated the word "southern."
- 7** The figures we used were provided by your office in 1978. We thank you for the updated figures, which we have incorporated in the Final Report.
- 8** We made these corrections.
- 9** See response #5 to Glenn L. Miller.

MAYOR
EVERETT E. MANN



City of Rawlins Wyoming

October 1, 1979

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir:

I have reviewed the draft of the Wild and Scenic Rivers study and the draft of the environmental statement on the Green and Yampa Rivers and have the following comments.

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The Upper Colorado River Basin Compact apportioned water to each state. Wyoming should have the ability to develop their legal rightful share of this water. No downstream uses have the right to interfere with this right.

1 The following statements clearly indicate that the federal government intends to break the compact with Wyoming & usurp control over our state waters.

Page 8: The request for minimum flows in the Green River below Flaming Gorge Dam of 1600 cfs May 15 - Sept. 15 and 800 cfs for the rest of the year. Historically, without regulations, from 1924 to 1960 flows of the Green River were less than 1600 cfs 1/3 of the time.

Page 20: "Other public concerns expressed were possible additional federal regulations and involvement in local affairs, government takeover or interference with private water rights and lands, and questions as to why the two rivers should be in the Wild and Scenic Rivers System when much of the length of the study segments is already protected within Dinosaur National Monument."

The key words "additional federal regulations interference with private water rights and land."

2 Water rights regulations need to remain with the states.

Comments

Responses

CITY COUNCIL
CAROL A. MOORE
BOB L. HARBISON
JUNE R. AYLSWORTH
STEVEN L. OLSON
ARTURO ARCHULETA
DeBARI MARTINEZ

1 Your assumption is incorrect. Section 13(e) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act states, "Nothing contained in this Act shall be construed to alter, amend, repeal, interpret, modify, or be in conflict with any interstate compact made by any States which contain any portion of the national wild and scenic rivers system."

2 Section 13(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act states, "Nothing in this Act shall constitute an express or implied claim or denial on the part of the Federal Government as to exemption from State water laws." The Department of the Interior Solicitor's opinion of June 26, 1979, states that the United States may apply for such unappropriated waters as of the date of designation as are necessary to accomplish the purposes of the designation. Such application would be under the aegis of state water laws. We see nothing in the Act or this proposal that would affect state administration of water law.

	Comments	Responses
Page 2		
	<p>Page 20: "Team response to these concerns pointed out that, should the Yampa and Green be added to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, (1) administration will continue under existing agencies with no expected major changes in regulations or permitted river uses; (2) no condemnation of private lands in fee title will be permitted, although a limited number of riverfront scenic easements will be purchased through negotiation, or less likely, condemnation; (3) no need or funding for the purchase of privately owned water rights in the study area is <u>foreseen</u>; and (4) designation under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act would provide for the preservation of <u>free-flowing</u> river and other natural values at a greater level than that possible through present management or ownership."</p> <p>The key words "purchase through negotiations condemnation."</p> <p>In the past the federal government has taken what they want one way or another.</p>	
3 8	<p>3 "preservation of free flowing river" These rivers are not free flowing. In a natural state flood stage would sweep through the Green River Basin and then low flows through out the summer to minimal flows in September, October . . . as stated on Page 85, dams have been constructed for irrigation and power.. This is what has allowed continuing "free flowing river" through out the year.</p> <p>Page 65: "The maximum flow rate on the Green River below the Flaming Gorge Dam is approximately 4,600 cfs ($130 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$), which is sufficient for all types and sizes of river-running craft. However, flow rates under 1,600 cfs ($45 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$) will impede rafts more than 18 feet (5.5m) in length; smaller rafts can be impeded in places. Below the Yampa confluence, a minimum flow rate of 1,200 cfs ($34 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$) is required for passage in rafts, kayaks, or canoes."</p> <p>Flow rate in a stream cannot be regulated for a limited use of rafts, kayaks, or canoes, over the State of Wyoming right to their apportioned water to the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact.</p> <p>Page 183: " . . . the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (and critical habitat designation, if it is established) provides statutory protection for the endangered fish species in the Yampa and Green Rivers. This Act is expected to be the instrument that limits or modifies major water project development in the Yampa Basin. However, as FWS has states, the"</p> <p>Page 198: " . . . prevent incompatible developments on private land. Water resource developments within the two river proposal areas and possibly upstream upstream from the Yampa study segment will be prohibited; this may indirectly affect mining outside the study"</p> <p>Page 251: "Future water resource development within the Yampa Basin that would unreasonably diminish existing scenic, recreational, and fish and wildlife value</p>	<p>3 The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act defines free-flowing as ". . . existing or flowing in natural condition without impoundment, diversion, straightening, ripraping, or other modification of the waterway. The existence, however, of low dams, diversion works and other minor structures . . . shall not automatically bar its consideration for such inclusion. . . ." By these criteria, the study segments of the Green and Yampa are free-flowing.</p>

Comments

Responses

page 3

within the study area would be foregone. The hydropower, irrigation, municipal and industrial use, and other benefits associated with these projects would be lost."

Page 261: "The 160-acre (65 ha) Mantle Ranch on the Yampa will eventually be obtained by the monument, but no prediction of when it will can be made. When it does, plans call for preserving the buildings as exhibits and allowing the fields to revert to natural vegetation. It is expected that the two private properties in the corridor in Segment B will not be subdivided, and will continue to be used for grazing, agriculture and personal residence."

This goes back to comments from Page 20. The federal government intends to obtain this land one way or another.

I have basically touched on two topics to do with this report. Since I received this report only today and the comments have to be in by October 1, I have not had time to go into the report extensively..

I am, however, against condemnation of: 1) land ownership, 2) excluding all mineral extract and 3) designating a land use to one exclusive use.

Also, Wyoming has water rights to their apportioned share of the Colorado River Water. The National Park Service does not have the right to take this water from the State of Wyoming for whatever use they designate it for.

Wyoming's water should remain for Wyoming's use.

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Sincerely,



Kim Keaton
Assistant City Engineer

City of Rawlins
P.O. Box 953
Rawlins, Wyoming 82301

KK:do

NOTE: Quotes from the "draft wild and scenic river study draft environmental statement" (June 1979)



Comments

Responses

OFFICE OF
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RIO BLANCO COUNTY
BOX 1027
MEEKER, COLORADO 81641.

September 18, 1979

Mr. Don Bock
Rocky Mountain Region
National Parks Service
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Re: Yampa and Green Rivers

Dear Sir:

The Board of County Commissioners of Rio Blanco County opposes the designation of the Green and Yampa Rivers as Wild and Scenic Rivers. The availability of water is a matter of great importance in the development of the energy resources in both Moffat and Rio Blanco Counties. The designation of portions of the two rivers as Wild and Scenic Rivers could severely limit the availability of water and limit development of the energy resources in Moffat County. The effect would be to force a more rapid development of the similar resources located in Rio Blanco County with a resulting heavier impact on Rio Blanco County. At the present time, development of mineral resources has been more or less evenly spread between the two counties, permitting more uniform and satisfactory handling of impact problems.

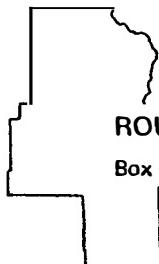
We are opposed to any action by the Federal Government which would create additional problems in our region.

Sincerely yours,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF RIO BLANCO COUNTY

By: Dale Frisch
Dale Frisch, Chairman

370



Comments

Responses

ROUTT COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Box 936 • Steamboat Springs • Colorado 80477 • 303/879-0108

September 20, 1979

Robert E. McKune
District 1
Oak Creek

Burnett Hockett
District 2
Hayden

Douglas W. Boggs
District 3
Steamboat Springs

Mr. Don Bock
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
Box 25257
Denver, CO 80225

Dear Mr. Bock:

Daniel S. Maus
County Attorney
Box 9340
879-0100

We write to oppose placing any controls on the Yampa River in Dinosaur National Monument as proposed in the National Park Service's Draft Green & Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers Study.

Eunice Dorr
Clerk of the Board
Box 936
879-1710

The impact of such a move on the flow of water to ranches throughout Colorado is much too high a price to pay for an "unusual rafting experience," and we will appreciate that view being included in the study report.

Sincerely,

Routt County Commissioners

Robert E. McKune
Robert E. McKune
Chairman

cc: Moffat County Commissioners

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC AND ORGANIZATIONS
WHICH REQUIRE RESPONSES**

Comments

Responses



BANNER ASSOCIATES, INC.
CONSULTING ENGINEERS & ARCHITECTS
Wyoming, Laramie, Cheyenne
South Dakota, Bismarck, Rapid City
3005, 4th Street, P.O. Box 550, Laramie, Wyoming 82070 Telephone 307/745-7366

November 5, 1979

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir:

We have reviewed the draft wild and scenic river study and draft environmental statement on the Green and Yampa Rivers dated June 1979, and we are concerned about a number of statements therein. Having been employed by the City of Cheyenne to do the engineering work on the proposed expansion of the water collection facilities at the headwaters of the Little Snake River drainage, our concern goes specifically to the effect that a wild or scenic river designation on the Yampa River might have on this project. As you know, the Little Snake River flows into the Yampa upstream from the section proposed to be designated as a wild river.

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The following statements from the study previously mentioned, and others of similar nature, are the basis of our concern:

- 1 Page 198: "Water resource development within the two river proposal areas and possibly upstream from the Yampa study segment will be prohibited."

Page 251: "Future water resource development within the Yampa Basin that would unreasonably diminish existing scenic, recreational, and fish and wildlife values within the study area would be foregone. The hydropower, irrigation, municipal and industrial use, and other benefits associated with these projects would be lost."

The City of Cheyenne has water right permits dating back to 1954, issued by the Wyoming State Engineer, which establish a legal right to use the waters of the Little Snake River drainage. They have actively pursued this project since its inception, and have relied on this source of supply to support future growth in the Cheyenne area. There are no other suitable water sources available to the City which could be readily substituted, particularly not at comparable costs.

- 1 See response #2 to Governor Herschler.

Comments

Responses

BANNER ASSOCIATES, INC.
CONSULTING ENGINEERS & ARCHITECTS

National Park Service
November 5, 1979

Page 2

We would urge that no action be taken which could conceivably preclude or adversely affect Cheyenne's plans to expand her water collection system.

Sincerely,

Banner Associates, Inc.


By Floyd A. Bishop

cc: Cheyenne Board of Public Utilities

FAB/ssb

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Comments

122 2nd. Ave. O.V.
Cheyenne, Wyo. 82001
November 14, 1979

Responses

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25297
Denver, Colo. 80225

Dear Sir:

1 We are concerned about this "Green - Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers Study" and the effect it will have on the city of Cheyenne. Our first concern is for the people of Cheyenne and their future water needs. We feel that this development could severely injure all future growth for Cheyenne--the Capitol of a growing State.

Sincerely,

Mrs. David Bliss

Mrs. Dave Bliss

1 As we stated in our response to Governor Herschler (see item 2), we do not foresee any impact on the Cheyenne Water Project, Stages 1 and 2, that would result from designation of the Yampa River or the Green River. Due to a lack of detailed information on Stage III, we have not been able to determine if there would be any impacts on this development that might result from river designation.

Comments

Responses

1102 Rosebud Road,
Cheyenne, Wyoming,
November 12, 1979

Regional Director,
National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Area,
P. O. Box 25287,
Denver, Colorado 80225

Re: Green & Yampa Rivers Study,
Stage III, Cheyenne Water System.
Dear Sir:

As a member of water study groups of American Association of University Women, I am deeply concerned about the implications of and effects of the Green-Yampa Wild & Scenic Yampa River Study on Cheyenne Water Supply.

1 Among several other rights, the city of Cheyenne was given rights to the Little Snake River in 1931. In recent years the city of Cheyenne has been developing its water supply through the use of its water rights in a wide area.

Please be advised that Cheyenne is a fast-growing city and development of adequate water resources is absolutely necessary.

Such development of potential water supply has been accelerated since 1961, yet scarcely keeps abreast of the needs of an influx of people to this part of Wyoming.

I certainly hope and urge that no level use planning of any kind be permitted to hinder the further development of the City of Cheyenne's water supply.

The 1980 census will verify a rapidly expanding population for the City of Cheyenne with its need for increase in water supply.

1 See response #2 to Governor Herschler.

From a vitally concerned citizen,

Mrs. Roy L. Brundt, Cheyenne, Wyo.

Mrs. Roy L. Brundt

Comments

Responses

720 Bennett Avenue
Glenwood Springs, CO 81601
November 6, 1979

Mr. Glen T. Bean, Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service, 655 Parfet Street
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

Dear Mr. Bean:

I wish to register my opposition to the designation of the Yampa River of Colorado becoming a wild and/or scenic river in or about the area of the Dinosaur National Monument unless certain qualifications and regulations are changed and expressed whereby the river above such designation is not restricted as to dams or other usage. These restrictions would have to be qualified in statements and may take an Act of Congress to make such changes. I feel that such a designation for the Yampa River within the area of the said National Monument would be of great value to the public. If the designation would curtail usage of the river from the point of entrance to the National Monument and thence to the headwaters of the Yampa River, I am very opposed and would desire to delete any designation of the river becoming wild and/or scenic.

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Our efforts for the production of energy is as important as should be our efforts in wartime. I think our president has expressed this. I know our citizens understand this. It is important that all of us, including agencies of the state and federal governments, understand that we have arrived at a time in the United States whereby we must be willing to compromise and offer compromise between producing energy and having fun drifting down a river. The Yampa, within the Park boundaries, is administered by the Park Service. What more control does the Park Service want?

1 I attended the meeting in Craig on September 22, 1979 where the Park Service employees had been advised by counsel not to answer any pertinent questions. This was a complete waste of taxpayers dollars and I so reported to my employer Congressman Jim Johnson.

I strongly support the Juniper-Cross project and greatly oppose the designation of the Yampa River to become one of the wild and/or scenic rivers.

Sincerely,


Charles P. Casteel

1 National Park Service representatives attended the meeting with the Colorado River Water Conservation District incidentally to meeting with the Moffat County Commissioners and interested citizens. Because of reserved water rights litigation and a suit lodged against the Interior Department and the States of Colorado and Utah by the River District, questions pertaining to endangered fish and reserved water rights involved in those cases could not be answered. Both Mr. Fischer, Secretary-Engineer of the River District, and Commissioner Clifton were advised before the meeting that NPS representatives would be unable to answer questions on those topics, and yet the meetings were still requested. Only those particular topics could not be discussed; any others could be and several were, particularly at the second meeting. Very few questions were asked on discussable topics at the Water District meeting, despite NPS representatives' expressed willingness to answer them.

COLORADO COUNCIL

1740 High Street Denver, Colorado 80218 (303) 393-0218



Comments

Responses

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

Sept. 5th '79

Gentlemen:

The Colorado Council of Trout Unlimited (CCTU) has reviewed the draft environmental statement on the study of the Green and Yampa Rivers for designation as Wild and Scenic Rivers.

We concur with the recommendations of the Federal Study Team Agencies for classification of the four study segments, with the exception that Segment B, Green River, should be granted "Scenic", rather than "Recreational" status, as recommended by the Colorado Department of Natural Resources.

It seems clear that segment B qualifies for "Scenic" status, with only 3% of the total lands in private holdings and only 5% of the shoreline not publicly held, and only minimally altered. Surely it meets the legislative criteria for a Scenic river of "shorelines or watersheds largely primitive and shorelines largely undeveloped."

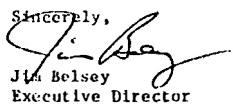
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Not-with-standing the absence of significant cold-water game fish populations in Segments C and D of the recommendations, CCTU enthusiastically endorses their designation as wild rivers in the national system because of the myriad natural values they possess and their high qualities for water recreation.

The superb rainbow trout fishery in Segment A and the potential for a very good mixed brown and rainbow fishery in segment B are extra reasons to protect those stretches. We urge that minimum/maximum flows from Flaming Gorge Dam be established that would foster the biological and physical requirements of the game fish populations, as well as the biotic values of the Green River's riparian lands.

1 We are also concerned with the minimum flow guidelines proposed for the Yampa, should upstream impoundments be built. They too should be dictated by biological needs rather than just floating recreation. Winter minimums must at least match historical averages and probably be greater in order to dilute human pollution. The abrupt drop from 1200 cfs to 250 on Sept. 10 seems excessive. And a period of spring flushing well above 2500 cfs is necessary to maintain the river's normal ecological pattern.

Please include these comments in the official record of this matter.

Sincerely,

Jim Belsey
Executive Director

1 We have deleted our recommendations for minimum flows on the Yampa. Please see text corrections, particularly in Chapters I and II, for additional information on Yampa River flows.

Comments
**COLORADO RIVER WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

Responses

**COMMENTS OF COLORADO RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ON THE DRAFT STUDY/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
GREEN AND YAMPA RIVERS
PREPARED BY THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**

October 8, 1979

1 The Colorado River Water Conservation District (River District) is principally concerned with and objects to the recommendation contained in the referenced documents (the draft reports or documents) to designate that portion of the Yampa River within Dinosaur National Monument (Segment D) as a wild river in the wild and scenic river system. To the extent similar or companion designation of the Green River is recommended which would affect (or lead to such an affect) development in the State of Colorado on the Yampa River and the use by Colorado of Yampa River water for beneficial purposes, objection is likewise made.

The Board of Directors of the River District held a special meeting at Craig, Colorado, on September 22, 1979, for the purpose, in part, of discussion of these recommendations with National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service officials connected with the studies and the preparation of the draft reports which are the subject matter of these

1 Because of litigation over the reserved water rights for Dinosaur National Monument, to which the River District is a party, and litigation over the Endangered Species suit, which the River District filed naming the Secretary of the Interior and the Governors of Colorado and Utah and others as defendants, matters relating to the litigation could not be discussed at your meeting, so as not to prejudice the case with public comment during its consideration. However, as National Park Service representatives stated at the meeting, we were able to receive input on all matters, including these, and to discuss all other matters. We informed Mr. Fischer of the River District that we could attend the meeting with this condition, and were still invited to do so. We do not consider the request from our Solicitor "arbitrary," nor do we consider these conditions (to which the District, in our opinion, consented) "stultified" the opportunity to give or receive public comment. We are still open to responsible comment on the issue and facts as presented in the Final Environmental Statement.

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Comments

comments. The Board presumed, and properly so, the purpose of such discussion was to allow them to make meaningful public comment and input which would ultimately be of benefit to the Congress of the United States in connection with any decision on exclusion or inclusion of the subject river segments in the National wild and scenic river system.

This presumption regarding an opportunity to give meaningful public comment was stultified, however, by three circumstances. These were: (1) The arbitrary refusal (on advice of counsel) of the National Park/Fish and Wildlife officials present to discuss or answer questions concerning alleged federal reserved water rights sufficient for the stated purposes of Segment D Yampa River wild river designation; (2) The arbitrary refusal (on advice of counsel) of the National Park/Fish and Wildlife officials present to discuss the purported inhibitions imposed on development by the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended; and, (3) the fact the proposed recommendations were subjective, i.e., an individual feeling as to what was best, rather than objective, i.e., conclusions based on adequate facts and study.

2 (l) Section 13, (16 U.S.C.A. 1284) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and particularly subsections (b), (c), (d) and (e) thereof addresses specifically the subject of

-2-

Responses

2 We are including in the final report and impact statement a discussion of Dinosaur National Monument's reserved water rights, and the potential for future reserved rights claims based on wild and scenic river designation. If the monument receives the amounts of water which we anticipate will be granted in the court decision awarding the right (now on appeal), there may be no need to apply for additional water rights based on designation. We do not agree that the omission of information on federal reserved water rights in the draft report "negates . . . the efficacy of the Draft."

Comments

reserved water rights of the United States for the purposes of the Act, compensation for the taking by such designation of water rights vested by reason of state law, and the supremacy of the Colorado River Compacts and Treaties. Not only were these material subjects not discussed in the Draft reports, but the Interior Solicitor apparently forbade employees of the United States to publicly discuss the issues thereby raised. The reason assigned for the "gag" direction was the litigation regarding the Federal reserved water rights pending now on anticipated appeal to the Colorado Supreme Court. The failure to discuss such issues in the Draft reports, and the refusal to allow any meaningful public comment and input on these subject negates entirely the efficacy of the Draft documents, and mandates a reappraisal thereof in Draft form.

3 (2) As in the case of Federal reserved water rights, the Federal officials at the River District's public meeting at Craig, Colorado, September 22, 1979, refused to publicly discuss the allegedly endangered species in the area, and the effect, if any, thereof on upstream development. The subject was, however, treated with in the Draft reports. While acknowledging the status and habitat requirements of endangered species to be totally within the sphere of expertise

Responses

3 We are inserting citations for the statements to which you referred pertaining to the endangered fish. However, we also wish to point out that statements in the draft report about possible effects on endangered fish and implementation of the Endangered Species Act were made to clarify the relationship of the Endangered Species Act and its relationship to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Comments

of the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Draft documents, nonetheless, expressed unsubstantiated biological opinions on the consequences of upstream development on habitat requirements of allegedly endangered fishes. Since the Fish and Wildlife Service acknowledges the habitat requirements of such fishes to be largely unknown, and, since, legitimate scientific differences exist as to the best ways and means of accomodating the requirements of the fishes, public comment and input should be material to any discussion of the subject in any Final documents. The official prohibition on such dialog effectively stultified the objective of public input, and results, as before, in a total loss of reliability in the Draft reports.

4 (3) The Board of the River District further presumes the Congressional directive to the Secretary of the Interior (the Secretary's duties as to the instant studies were apparently delegated first to BOR, and, later, to NPS) requires an objective study and report on the merits and the demerits of the proposals. Even a cursory examination of the Draft documents results in the conviction the study was wholly subjective, rather than objective, and has, as its principal objective, the foreclosure of upstream development on the Yampa River without regard to the consequences to the

Responses

4 The objective of the study was to examine the river segments to determine if they qualified for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, to make a recommendation as to whether they should receive the preservation and protection which the Act extends to designated rivers, and to display, so far as current knowledge permits, the impacts of designation. One of those impacts may be the prohibition or modification of upstream water developments, but as is discussed in the Report and EIS, reserved water rights, the implementation of the Endangered Species Act, or a possible BLM recommendation for wilderness in the Cross Mountain area could impact upstream water project development. If this occurs the impact will not be from wild and scenic river designation. Since our study and report content were based on a Congressional mandate, and these conclusions are based on the requirements of federal legislation, we do not believe our report and impact statement are "wholly subjective." The study and environmental evaluation were performed in compliance with the law.

Comments

people of the area and the Nation. Such an approach ignores the clear mandate of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act which directs that such designations are to complement, not supercede or replace, the established national policy of dam and other construction. Such predetermination of the result is evidenced, in part, by the following:

- 5 a) At the outset of the September 22, 1979, public meeting above referred to, NPS officials announced they welcomed the opportunity to discuss with the River District Board the upstream development plans of that Board, because they had been unable to ascertain all that was needed to be known about such plans, and particularly, the Juniper-Cross Mountain Hydroelectric Project. As here demonstrated this assertion of lack of knowledge or lack of availability thereof was simply not true.

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1) In response to inquiry from FPC (now FERC) for a review of the River District's application for preliminary permit for the Juniper-Cross Mountain Project, the Secretary of the Interior on January 14, 1976, inter alia, said:

"Moreover the Yampa River, the last free-flowing tributary to the Colorado River System, is also proposed for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Construction of dams upstream from the proposed area would greatly alter the natural features and processes which qualify the Yampa for inclusion in the system. (Emphasis supplied).

Responses

- 5 The two quoted passages show, not that a recommendation had previously been decided, but that the river segments had been found eligible for designation. This is a necessary step which is made well before recommendations are presented in a draft report. This step was completed in this study as scheduled. In actuality, there really is no recommendation until the Secretary of the Interior transmits the final study report, environmental statement, and his recommendation to the President. It must still be accepted by the Office of Management and Budget and the President of the United States before a recommendation is made to Congress, and Congress must act upon it before any proposal becomes a reality.

Comments	Responses
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The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (P.L. 90-542 as amended) designated the segment of the Yampa River within the boundaries of the monument for potential addition to the national wild and scenic rivers system. The Bureau of Outdoor Recreation has initiated and is the Federal lead agency on a study of that river segment to determine its suitability for inclusion in the national system. Congress has directed that the study be completed and the report submitted no later than October 2, 1979."

2) By letter dated August 13, 1976, BOR requested (by 20 questions) information from the River District on proposed upstream developments, stating, in part, as follows:

"The study team for the Yampa and Green Wild and Scenic Rivers Study has determined that the Yampa River within Dinosaur National Monument qualifies as a wild river area according to the criteria specified in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, P.L. 90-542. The outstandingly remarkable qualities identified in and along this segment of the Yampa are its scenic, recreational, geologic, and fish values.

Pursuant to Principles and Standards for Planning Water and Related Land Resources, wild and scenic river studies must display the beneficial and adverse effects of alternative plans for the use of the Nation's water and land resources in separate accounts. These accounts must show the beneficial and adverse effects of these plans on national economic development, environmental quality, regional development, and social well-being. . . ." (Emphasis supplied).

The River District responded thereto on September 28, 1976, in an eleven page letter, detailing information

Comments

Responses

available to it at that time. No further inquiry was made of the River District thereon.

b) The quoted portion of the January 14, 1976 comments of the Secretary and the first quoted paragraph of the August 13, 1976, request from BOR, clearly establishes that as early as probably January and certainly no later than August, 1976, the decision had been made to recommend inclusion of the subject areas in the National wild and scenic rivers system, and that all that remained to be done was obtain the data required by Congress for such a study before a recommendation was formulated. In view of the hereinbefore referred to express purposes of the Act, the River District is at a loss to understand how the end result of the studies directed to be made can be arrived at before the studies are actually begun.

6 c) As final and conclusive evidence the Draft documents were the result of a subjective decision, pre-ordained before the studies therefor even commenced, the NPS officials announced at the September 22, 1979, meeting at Craig, in substance, they welcomed comment, such would be attached to the Final report and statement, and though such Final document would be somewhat revised, the recommendations would be the same as expressed in the Draft report. Obviously, public input and comment is of absolutely no consequence!

6 Our recollection of the statement at the meeting differs from yours. We stated that the basic recommendation--to designate the river segments--would probably not change. In fact, due to public comment, several of the recommendations have been changed or deleted.

Comments

Among other things referred to by the River District in its September 28, 1976 response to BOR, and not even discussed in the Draft reports, were

- 7** a) The value of an agricultural industry to the Yampa River area;
- 8** b) The hydroelectric potential (including the lack of pollution) of the Juniper-Cross Mountain Project;
- 9** c) The vast public recreational benefits associated with reservoirs and controlled streams, (*i.e.* Bureau of Reclamation release of September 1, 1979, and such information has always been available to the NPS);
- 10** d) The possibility of infringement of such a designation on the state of Colorado entitlements to water under the Colorado River Compacts and the Mexican Treaty;
- 11** e) The possibility, if not the probability, of rejuvenation of the involved allegedly endangered fishes species by construction of the Juniper-Cross Mountain Project, and related facilities;
- 12** f) The protections afforded by present designation of part of the involved areas as a monument, and part as a national wildlife refuge; and
- 13** g) The studies and investigation (by another Interior Department agency) on utilization of the vast

Responses

- 7** This was discussed on pages 60 and 62 of the draft report.
- 8** This was discussed in the draft on pages 46, 51, and 234-237. Based on information obtained from your consultants, we have revised these discussions.
- 9** Any pertinent information we were able to obtain on recreational benefits has been presented in summary form in the Final Report. However, please note that as of the time of preparation of this response, we had attempted twice to obtain this information from the District or the District's environmental consultant. The answer given to us was that this information had not been developed.
- 10** Discussion has been included in Chapter II of the Final Report on interstate compacts. Section 13(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act states "Nothing . . . in this Act shall be construed to alter, amend, repeal, interpret, modify, or be in conflict with any interstate compact made by any States which contain any portion of the national wild and scenic rivers system." Article XIX of the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact states that the U.S. Government will not be constrained by the Compact from acquiring rights to and using Upper Colorado River System Water; we do not foresee any "infringement" that would result from designation.
- 11** We requested this information from you and your consultants, and are including it in the final document.
- 12** This was discussed in the draft on pages 215-216, and 225.
- 13** We cited from the Northwest Colorado Coal EIS by the BLM (FES 77/1) on pages 27 and 228 of the draft.

Comments

Responses

northwestern Colorado coal resources.

Certainly, an informed Congress is entitled to an unbiased, comprehensive report from an agency of the United States. The Draft documents, for the reasons heretofore and hereinafter expressed and as will be expressed by others, are wholly insufficient to form an acceptable basis for later Final documents and recommendations.

Though not all inclusive and duplicative, in part, and not intended to be exclusive of the foregoing, such a new Draft study and impact statement must consider, weigh and report, with relation to the proposal, on the following:

- 14 1) The cost to the United States of acquiring private water rights on the Yampa River which will be impaired or reduced in value by the proposed designation of the Yampa River as Wild. The water rights of the River District for the proposed Juniper-Cross Mountain Project, as well as the water rights of a great number of other parties in the Yampa River basin (many of which were set out in the September 28, 1976, response of the River District) are vested water rights entitled to the protection of the due process clauses of the United States and the Colorado Constitutions and are specifically protected by the Wild and Scenic River Act itself. The same cannot be taken by the actions of the United States without

- 14 See response #2. We envision no condemnation of water rights, and no interference with vested water rights, and so have not projected costs for any.

<u>Comments</u>	<u>Responses</u>
compensation.	
15 2) The regional and national importance of the coal, oil shale and other minerals of the area, the production and utilization of which is dependent upon the use of the naturally occurring water in the area.	15 The draft treated these matters on pages 25-32 and 226-237.
3) The regional and national importance of the pollution-free hydroelectric energy potential (recognized since the first power site reservation in the area in 1910) which can be realized from appropriate facilities on the Yampa River upstream from Dinosaur National Monument.	
16 4) The benefits obtained from and obligations imposed on the State of Colorado under and by virtue of the Colorado River Compact of 1922, the Mexican Treaty of 1944, and the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact of 1948, likewise protected by the involved Act from any interference.	16 We are including a treatment of the "law of the river" in the final report and impact statement.
17 5) The reserved water rights of the United States, if any, for Dinosaur National Monument, and their priority relationship to other vested water rights in the Yampa River Basin. It may well be that such are insufficient to justify proceeding further.	17 See response #2.
18 6) The proclamation, Executive Order, or other limitations of use and purpose in the establishment of Dinosaur National Monument.	18 The draft dealt with this on pages 214 and 215.

Comments

19 7) The President of the United States, in recommending to Congress the inclusion of certain rivers and river segments in the Wild and Scenic River system, specifically did not recommend item 30 (88 Stat. 2094), the Big Thompson River segment within Rocky Mountain National Park, because such protection (Wild and Scenic River) was not needed, as the segment was already administered by the National Park Service. The identical situation is here involved as to the Yampa River segment within Dinosaur National Monument, and a similar situation obtains with regard to the Brown's Park National Refuge.

20 In summation, adequate information is readily available to NPS to fairly and comprehensively assess the benefits and detriments of wild river designation, to, in the words of the Act, report on ". . . the reasonably foreseeable potential uses of the land and water which would be enhanced, foreclosed, or curtailed if the area were included in the national wild and scenic rivers system . . .". (Emphasis supplied). It simply does not suffice to refer to Secretarial discretion in that connection, especially when the Secretary has already (January 14, 1976) so clearly expressed himself on that issue.

The River District will furnish, on request, such

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Responses

19 The situation is not identical. The Big Thompson was ineligible due to length; the Yampa and Green are eligible. The Big Thompson segment begins at the headwaters and is almost completely contained within a remote area; the Green and Yampa segments begin more than 100 miles below the headwaters. No water rights affect the Big Thompson; many do the Yampa.

20 The Secretary of the Interior has not indicated how he will exercise the Section 7 requirements of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act; we do not expect Secretarial determinations to be made until the Department has the most complete information available on Juniper-Cross Mountain and perhaps other definite proposed projects in the basin. Lacking that information, what is essentially a worst-case analysis has been presented.

Comments

21 information on these subjects as is currently available to it. A copy of the resolution of the Board of Directors of the Colorado River Water Conservation District unanimously adopted at Craig, Colorado, September 22, 1979, on the subject matter of these comments is attached as Exhibit A. If no new Draft documents are prepared, you are requested to include these comments in any Final Report and Statement made.

Responses

21 we have made use of the information you made available to use.

Exhibit A

Comments

Responses

RESOLUTION

(Green-Yampa Wild & Scenic Rivers)

WHEREAS, in June of 1979 (released July 27, 1979) the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, (in cooperation with the Colorado and Utah Departments of Natural Resources) completed a Draft Wild and Scenic River Study and Draft Environmental Statement (DES 79-48) on the study areas of the Green and Yampa Rivers described in Public Law 93-921 (88 Stat. 2094); and an additional river segment requested by Utah but not authorized by Congress; and

WHEREAS, such authorizing legislation directed completion of the study and the report thereon to the Congress of the United States not later than October 2, 1979; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Colorado River Water Conservation District have reviewed such draft report and statement and find them deficient in at least the following particulars, to-wit:

1. The conclusions therein are subjective rather than objective;

2. Insufficient consideration is given to the expressed policy of the Act (82 Stat. 906, 16 U.S.C.A. 1271);

3. No consideration was given to water rights conflicts of the area, including Federal reserved water rights, if any, presently vested rights under state law, and the benefits and obligations of the state of Colorado and its water users under the Colorado River Compact of 1922

Comments	Responses
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(Public Law 56, 67th Cong.), the Treaty (of 1944) with Mexico relating to the utilization of the waters of the Colorado and Tijuana Rivers and of the Rio Grande (Treaty Series 994) and the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact of 1948 (63 Stat. 31).

4. Insufficient consideration was given to the energy generation capabilities of the upstream use of the waters involved, as well as the prior power and reclamation withdrawals in the area.

5. Insufficient consideration was given to the recreational potentials stemming from upstream development.

6. No consideration was given to the limitations expressed in the establishment of Dinosaur National Monument; and

WHEREAS, the Draft Study Report and Draft Environmental Statement are wholly insufficient for the purposes intended as not allowing participation in and generating public comment on meaningful issues, and in informing Congress of the true effect of such proposed designations.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of the Colorado River Water Conservation District at a special meeting held in Craig, Colorado, this 22nd day of September, 1979, hereby unanimously disapproves the Draft Study and Draft Environmental Statement, recommends a reanalysis of the issues involved and a proper presentation thereof in a new Draft Study and Draft Environmental Impact Statement for public review and comment, and opposes the recommendation for inclusion of the involved areas in the Wild and Scenic River System.



Moffat County Active Patriots

CRAIG, COLORADO

Comments

Sept. 21, 1979
P.O. Box 1161

Responses

Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colo. 80225

Dear Sir:

This letter is in regards to the draft of the Wild and Scenic river study and draft Environmental Statement, on the Green and Yampa Rivers.

1 We can not agree that this would be a good idea to have these Rivers in a Wild and Scenic Plan, work has been going for three years on the Colorado-Mte Power plant here in Craig, and another unit is planned to start this fall. What happens to this plant if the Yampa is designated as a Wild and Scenic and the minimum flow gets lower than should be like it did last summer? Does that mean the plant would not be able to run at full scale?

What about the Damn projects we need so dearly? Will this be one way for President Carter to get back at us seeing as how Congress did okay some of the money to build the dams?

2 Can you tell us just how much actually has been spent to do this study that the people of Craig told the people from your office we didn't want done in the first place?

3 On page 39 it states that the major consumptive use is for irrigation which accounts for about 75 percent. What is going to happen to these people who have to depend on the Rivers for their crop lands, do they just let them dry up and forget about trying to farm half of their properties and then loose their livelihoods?

On page 62 it states Moffat County has the highest amount of private land. Is this a sin for the people who came out here and went through all kinds of hardships to start a place of their own to hold on to this land from one generation to another? Why does the Federal Government think they should own everything?

On page 242 it states recreation developments will cost \$12,650 and that it will only contribute \$27,000 annually to the national economy.

1 Designation of the Yampa River would have no effect on the coal-fired steam electric generating plants to which you refer.

2 As of October 1, 1979, the cost of this study was approximately \$105,000. This includes costs incurred by both the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation (Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service) and the National Park Service, to whom the study was transferred in March of 1978. Since this study was authorized by an Act of Congress, the agencies named did not have the prerogative of not doing or discontinuing the study.

3 This proposal will not interfere with valid existing water rights.



Comments

Responses

-2-

Moffat County Active Patriots

CRAIG, COLORADO

That the impact will be felt mainly in Craig. Among those benefitting will be raft and tackle outfitters in the Dutch John area. In other words they take our River, keep the people who need to use it from doing so, and someone else gets the benefits?

On page 204 it states, generally, scenic easements restrict land uses to those currently being practiced. The Bureau of Land Management will acquire and enforce the provisions of the easements. Total estimated cost are \$162,000. In other words they will just be giving back the people their own money that they have had to pay in taxes over the years they have owned this property, and will not get probably a fourth back of what they paid. This is not right. That's next to Communism, except they don't reimburse people for taking what is rightfully theirs.

The Government is yelling about run away inflation and the older people are not making it on what little bit they are getting from Social Security and Pensions, yet the government wants to spend Billions on a project like this just to get more control of the people.

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As for the endangered species of Fish, if God wanted all these animals to stay on Earth, he would see that they were not extinct. He works in many ways not known to humans and for everything that happens to nature and her children there is a reason., and NO AMOUNT of MONEY or Government CONTROL is going to change it!

In the Constitution of The United States, the Preamble says, " WE THE PEOPLE of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common Defense, promote the General Welfare, and to secure the Blessings of Liberty to OURSELVES and Our Posterity, DO Ordain and Establish this Constitution FOR the United States of America"

No where in that paragraph does it give the GOVERNMENT the right to do ANYTHING without the CONSENT OF THE PEOPLE!

Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution reads,

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises, shall be uniform throughout the United States. Maybe this is



Comments

Responses

-3-

Bleffet County Active Patriots

CRAIG COLORADO

the way to stop all this needless Federal spending. Cut off the unconstitutional taxes the people are having to pay, therefore stopping all these so called buaricratic offices that are being thought up to spend the money.

Sec. 8. Congress shall have Power to borrow money.....

To regulate Commerce.....

To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization.....

To coin Money,.....which they do not do, The Federal Reserve does this an it is privately owned, therefore it is conterfiet because it is NOT BACKED BY GOLD OR SILVER!

To Provide for the PUNISHMENT of counterfeiting..... Which, it is NOT.

To establish Post Offices.....

To promote the PROGRESS of Science and useful Arts.....Patents.

To constitute Tribunals.....

To define and punish Piracies and Felonies committed on the High Seas.

To declare War.....

To raise and support Armies.....but money SHALL be for no longer than TWO YEARS.

To provide and maintain a Navy.

To make rules.....of the land and Naval Forces

To provide for calling the Militia.....

To provide for organizing such Militia.....

TO EXERCISE EXCLUSIVE LEGISLATION IN ALL CASES WHATSOEVER, OVER SUCH DISTRICT (NOT EXCEEDING TEN MILES SQUARE) AS MAY, BY CONSESSION OF PARTICULAR STATES, AND THE ACCEPTANCE OF CONGRESS, BECOME THE SEAT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND TO EXERCISE LIKE AUTHORITY OVER ALL PLACES PURCHASED BY THE CONSENT OF THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATES IN WHICH THE SAME SHALL BE, FOR THE ERECTION OF FORTS, MAGAZINES, ARSENALS, DOCK-YARDS, AND OTHER NEEDFUL BUILDINGS;

To make all LAWS which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing Powers, and all other other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

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-4-

Comments

Responses

Moffat County Active Patriots

CRAIG, COLORADO

So therefore NO WHERE in the U.S. Constitution does it give Congress the Power, nor the Government the Power, to have the right **4** to come in and say, "We have decided that we think we should have your land and anything you say means nothing". This is supposed to be a FREE Country, but we are quickly loosing our FREEDOM, and hopefully the PEOPLE will start to fight for their rights NOW, before it is too late for them.

We know this is a long letter, but would appreciate it if this letter would be read into the record and also the enclosed copy of the U.S. Constitution.

4 No lands will be acquired in fee title under this proposal.

Yours Truly,

Donald Coty,

Rose Marie Coty

Donald Coty
Rose Marie Coty

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The
**DECLARATION OF
INDEPENDENCE
and
CONSTITUTION OF
THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA**



Distributed by
**THE NATIONAL AMERICANISM
COMMISSION
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Indianapolis, Indiana**

ENCLOSURE WITH MOFFAT COUNTY ACTIVE PATRIOTS LETTER

Comments

Responses

Mrs. J. A. Dabney
3566 Essex Road
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001

11 November, 1979

Regional Director
Rocky Mtn. Region
National Park Service
PO Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

Dear Sir,

As a concerned citizen, I am writing to you in regard to the Green-Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers Study. My concern is regarding the impact of this study on the Cheyenne Water system. Since 1961 our city has been developing its water supply through use of its water rights on the Little Snake River which is a tributary of the Yampa River.

1 I hope that no action will be taken by your agency that

1 See response #2 to Governor Herschler.

Comments

Responses

cause delay at certain times
in my way with the Keyence
Water Project.

I would hope that the
Keyence Water Project can
proceed without additional
costs and delays.

Yours sincerely,

Jeanne Dubney
(Mrs. J. A.)

I sincerely request
opposite any comments
or influences other than
your influence that would
undermine me and others
in my area.

Comments

Mr. & Mrs. Carmen David
P.O. Box 37
Kinnear, WY 82516

Nov. 12, 1979

Mr. Don Bock
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

Dear Sir:

We are writing to express our comments and objections to the designation of the Green and Yampa Rivers as wild, scenic, or recreational under the "Wild and Scenic Rivers Act." Segment A and B are of our first concern. We are totally against any more land being taken from the landowners by any government agency, even as much as one easement. Brown's Park is already under enough government control.

We have witnessed what the government has done to Brown's Park. Ten to fifteen years ago it was a haven for waterfowl and wildlife when the landowners were left to live on their land, but now it is almost completely owned by the government and this is no longer so. There are weeds where hay fields were and dead trees where orchards lived. There has been thousands of dollars spent by government agencies developing man-made ponds while the old ones have been left to dry up because of a lack of run-off resulting from no irrigation. No irrigation also means no feed.

401 2 It is a fact that government agencies have destroyed many historical sites in the area calling them eyesores. The BLM was responsible for destroying a large area of beautiful Indian campgrounds that were very evident as having historical value when they railed the cedars. Now all of a sudden it has become "popular" to preserve Brown's Park's history. A little late wouldn't you say?

3 Again, we are totally against any government agencies taking any more land in Brown's Park. The people there have been harassed enough. Why can't they just be left alone? We strongly object to the inclusion of Segment A and B of the Green River Corridor as possible scenic or recreational classification under the wild river system.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,
Carmen and Janie Gair

Carmen and Nonie David

Responses

- 1 No easements were planned in segment A. The Bureau of Land Management has taken a position that under a recreational classification, scenic easements would probably not be needed in the Browns Park segment. However, since that decision was made, due to the strong support received for a scenic classification in the review comments we received, the classification of the segment has been re-examined and found eligible for the scenic category. A recommendation for this classification has been made in the Final Report. We now believe it likely that, following designation, the BLM will seek scenic easements on two tracts of land involving 108 acres in the Segment B river corridor (of a total of over 10,050). Existing uses of the land and future uses that would not degrade the river's values, however, would not be affected.

2 We looked into these charges, which were also made by the Kouris's. Several of the activities you mention apparently took place on lands managed by the Utah Division of Wildlife, to whom we suggest you communicate your opinions. However, the BLM did chain the Rye Grass area, and this chaining was done before there were any inventories of the cultural and archaeological values of the area. This could not now take place; the agency has changed its policies, and the cultural/archaeological values of any future chaining sites will be inventoried, evaluated, and, if necessary, salvaged, before future chaining takes place. An indication of the change in policy is that the BLM has undertaken the restoration and preservation of the Jarvie site.

3 While we respect your opposition to designating the Green River, we would point out that in this case, no one's lands will be taken, and that the intent of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act is to preserve rivers as they are, on the basis of the values they now have.

Comments

Responses

UTAH INTERNATIONAL INC.

BOX 187 - CRAIG, COLORADO 81625
303-824-4401

October 30, 1979

Mr. Glen T. Bean, Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service, 655 Parfet St.
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Mr. Bean:

As one of the major property owners of land that would be covered by the Juniper Dam if it was constructed, I believe I have a right to express my opinion as to whether this dam should be built. I feel it should be, and it would be very much an asset to Northwestern Colorado. Thus, I do not like the idea that the Park Service is attempting to designate the Yampa River as a "Scenic and Wild River".

402

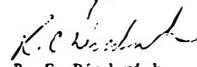
1 Our water rights on this river are quite senior and the quantity is quite high. With this designation, we could be in danger of losing some or all. If the Juniper Dam was constructed, it would only improve these water rights by making them available for the entire year.

The citizens of this area seem to be in general agreement that they desire construction of both dams. Thus, I question the wisdom of the Park Service in denying their interests. If the dams are built, many more people will benefit energy and recreation wise than would be benefited if the river can only be used for float trips.

2 In all Federal actions nowadays, a cost-benefit study must be made. I cannot see how by benefiting a few river runners that this study would indicate that this cost benefit would be higher than the many people benefited if the dams were built.

I request that you drop all considerations of the Yampa River being designated as a "Scenic and Wild River". Thank you.

Sincerely,


R. C. Diederich
Mine Manager
Trapper Mine

RCD:gw

- 1 The proposal would not affect vested water rights. However, as we have indicated in our report and impact statement, the Juniper-Cross Mountain Project could be affected by wild and scenic rivers designation (through delay, modification, or abandonment) if the Secretary of the Interior finds the project would "unreasonably diminish" the values for which the river was designated. This is a requirement of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Congress, of course, will have the option of designating or not designating the river.
- 2 Chapter XI and appendix A of our report and impact statement contains such an analysis. However, as we have pointed out, insufficient data were available on water projects to include this information in much more than general terms.

Comments

**THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK
AND TRUST COMPANY OF WYOMING**

CHEYENNE, WYOMING 82001

Responses

October 17, 1979

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

Dear Regional Director:

Re Green-Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers Study

I have just learned of the Green-Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers Study and I am greatly concerned about its potential impact on the Cheyenne water system. Since prior to 1961, the City of Cheyenne has been developing its water supply through use ¹ of its water rights on the Little Snake River. The Little Snake River is a tributary to the Yampa River. I trust that no action will be taken by your agency that will delay or interfere in any way with the Cheyenne Water Project.

Certainly the development of Cheyenne's water rights will not substantially affect the enjoyment of approximately 150 miles of river by a significant number of people. I am sure the benefits will be far greater to a far greater number of people if Cheyenne's Water Project can proceed without additional costs and delays.

Sincerely yours,

A. W. Dowdy
A. W. Dowdy
Exec. Vice President

¹ See response #2 to Governor Herschler.

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AWD/mh
cc: Senator Malcolm Wallop, Senator Alan K. Simpson, Congressman Richard B. Cheney, Governor Ed Herschler

Comments

Responses

240 Bramwell
Green River, WY 82935
September 29, 1979

Mr. Don Bock, Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

Dear Sir:

We are writing to express our concern over the "Draft Wild and Scenic River Study, Draft Environmental Statement," concerning the Green and Yampa Rivers issued in June, 1979. Our attention was drawn to this only this week and therefore we have not had time to do a thorough study or to make inquiries on this draft. Our immediate concerns are as follows:

- 4.04
1. People most affected, such as private land owners, did not know the Draft was issued.
 2. Small private holdings support wildlife and provide a much needed tax base. They give sanctuary, feed and protection to waterfowl and game animals in a recreation oriented area. Easement rights would adversely affect these conditions.
 3. To automatically assume, "Easements are needed to prevent incompatible and visually obtrusive future developments and protect natural features." is to insult people who have a special love for the land.
 4. Additional recreational need in the Brown's Park area is questionable. The historic sites have already been jeopardized or destroyed by government insensitivity, and recreational visitors. The Doc Parsons' Cabin referred to on p. 109, whose remains were burned to the ground by "recreation visitors" a year before your document was issued, is just one example.
 5. Facts show more government control has resulted in the deterioration of land quality, wildlife quantity, scenic value and loss of heritage.
 6. Is it necessary or even desirable in a democracy for government to have complete control of all lands and waterways? Not only does

- 1 Easements provide for the continuance of present land uses and permit all future land uses that do not degrade the river corridors' values. They also keep the land in private ownership, continuing the tax base.

Comments

Responses

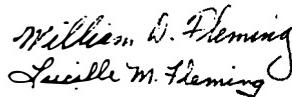
2

this destroy a desperately needed tax base, but it destroys people's lives who have protected, loved and cherished this land for several generations before the government even cared.

- 2 7. Finally, the two statements, "The Bureau of Land Management will acquire and enforce the provisions of the easements." and "No need is foreseen for outright acquisition of any private lands." seem incompatible. BLM controls make private land retention / impossible.

At this point in time we object to passage of the laws as proposed in this study.

Sincerely,



William D. Fleming
Lucille M. Fleming

- 2 We have communicated your feelings and concerns to the Bureau of Land Management.

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cc: Dick Cheney
Malcom Wallop
Alan Simpson

Comments

Responses

MOFFAT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT RE. NO. 1

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
775 YAMPA AVE. CRAIG, COLORADO 81625

October 3, 1979

Don Brock, Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80220

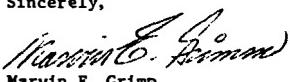
Dear Mr. Brock,

This letter is to comment on the "Draft Wild & Scenic River Study Draft Environmental Statement" as it concerns the Green and Yampa Rivers.

1 On page 46 Juniper-Cross Mountain Project: You list some of the benefits of the project but you omit what will probably be one of the biggest and that is Recreation. With an area that is as impacted with the energy boom as Northwest Colorado is, we need as much recreation as possible. A large body of water such as the Juniper-Cross Mountain project would provide an area large enough to absorb several hundred of the young people who are migrating to this region.

On page 151-153 you list the prime recreational use is white water boating, but a large lake would provide extended use for longer periods of time i.e. Flaming Gorge and the extended use there. Controlled flow would allow float trips for extended periods beyond the month or month and a half that is now provided by the rapid uncontrolled run off. The Yampa with dams should provide this kind of run off mentioned (p. 153) concerning the Green River.

1 See response #1 to Cindy South.

Sincerely,

Marvin E. Grimm
Superintendent of Schools

MEG/1z

Comments

Responses

2895 Darley Avenue
Boulder, Colorado
80303

November 29, 1979

National Park Service
Regional Director
Box 25287
Denver Federal Center
Denver Colo. 80225

Dear Sirs,

This letter belatedly conveys to you my strong support for inclusion of sections of the Yampa River in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. My only objection to the official proposal is that too little of the Yampa will be protected.

I have grown tired of phrasing my reasons for support of protective measures on other rivers in such a way as not to offend the water development industry, so this time, for the Yampa, I will say it as straight as I can. The Yampa needs and deserves classification as a National Wild River to prevent it, save the Dolores, the last major tributary to the Colorado which remains free-flowing, from destruction by the Colorado River Water Conservancy District. The Juniper Springs and Cross Mountain dams proposed by the district would reduce the Yampa to a trickle of cold, clear water. The Yampa, as the sole remaining example of a large, silt-laden, desert river, with its large springtime flows, should be preserved as the last of its type.

1 Classification of the portions of the Yampa within the National Monument will not guarantee that the River will not be defiled upstream. An extension of the classification to include Cross Mountain Canyon would make it more difficult for dams to be constructed. I have traversed Cross Mountain Canyon three times and I know that it is an example of what Congress intended to protect under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. I wish that the National Park Service would recommend inclusion of the Yampa from Deer Lodge Park to the head of Cross Mountain Canyon.

Those who favor damming the Yampa decry classification of the river as a "selfish" attempt by a small group to save the river for themselves. This albatross called selfishness must hang around the dammers' necks because the group which would enjoy the free flowing Yampa is not small but includes every citizen of the United States. It is entirely appropriate for the federal government to forbid damming the Yampa because it is a national resource not to be given away lightly to a local or regional group for their benefit.

I am not your stereotypical "crazy environmentalist", a "little old lady in tennis shoes" (though I have known many and love most of them). For your demography I am a Civil Engineer, registered in the State of Colorado; I am over thirty and grew up in my hometown of Boulder. I have a (very) modest income.

1 Such an extension of the designated area, or an authorization for study of the upstream reach, should be sought from Congress by citizens such as yourself.

Comments

Responses

I have also developed a strong feeling for the things that make Colorado and the West a special place. I hope that some of those things, which have made my life so enjoyable, will remain for future generations.

Hopefully,

Benjamin L. Harding

Benjamin L. Harding
Secretary

cc:The Governor
Congress

BLH/bh

Comments

Mike Kouris
P.O. Box 51
Kinney, NY 82516

October 1, 1979

Mr. Don Bock, Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

Dear Sir:

1 I am writing to object to the proposed withdrawal of the Green River Corridor as a possible "Wild or Scenic River." First, I feel your office has handled the possible withdrawal very poorly. I as a member of the public, and an owner of land near the Green River, was not informed of the study or when and to whom to comment on the matter. I, purely by accident discovered your intentions just recently. Thus the conclusion is drawn that you are not interested in adverse comments or publicity.

The reasons I object to a withdrawal of the corridor are: First, I feel this is just the first step of the government agencies to gain full control of all of the land and resources of the area (both public and private). Fourteen years ago the Bureau of Fish & Wildlife began taking the privately owned land in Brown's Park for the "public good." Since that time one government agency or another has acquired the land and now less than 10% is owned by private individuals. In the wake of the "Sagebrush Rebellion" I, like many others want to stop big government control. "For the public good" no longer means that control such as you are proposing, is advantages for the public or the private land owners. There have been repeated occurrences of destruction of historical and aesthetical landmarks, already, in the area by different government agencies. If the corridor is withdrawn, events of this nature will continue at the whim or wish of officials in charge of the area.

2 Second. Will the intentions of Congress in the Wild Rivers Act be carried out by the active people in the field? I believe not! Anyone who has dealt with a local government official fully realizes that quite often they do not carry out the intentions of the people who write the legislation.

Responses

1 Two series of public meetings were held in 1976, in Craig and Denver, Colorado, and in Vernal and Salt Lake City, Utah (Salt Lake included in latter series only). Each series was announced by press releases. The availability of reports was indicated to people on mailing lists and through the use of press releases, and reports were sent to some area residents. While the study team perhaps erred in not holding meetings in Wyoming, it was felt at the time of initiation of the study that the area of influence of the study did not extend significantly into Wyoming. In late September the team did, however, send copies to the Bureau of Reclamation and the Governor's office in Cheyenne for distribution to water districts and other interested entities, when the oversight was recognized. We regret that you did not learn of the study until recently.

2 We have communicated your concerns to the managing agencies in the Browns Park river corridor area.

Comments

Responses

- 2 -

Wildlife was abundant and historical sites were preserved when the land in Brown's Park was owned by ranchers. The management of the Green River corridor has been poor since the government agencies have had control. The BLM and Federal Fish & Wildlife are continually fighting against each other concerning management of the area. Most of this originates, not on the local level, but on the district office level. Many problems have arisen from the influx of people wanting to enjoy the river and the BLM has not been able to solve these problems. Will the withdrawal or the designation under the Wild Rivers Act solve or even help in solving these problems? Again, I believe not! If anything, the problems will be compounded for management. Just the publicity of the withdrawal will draw more attention to the area, resulting in more visitors, facing poor facilities because of poor management. By the designation under the Wild Rivers Act you will eliminate what we want to preserve - the natural beauty and outdoor recreation qualities of the river corridor.

Again, I strongly object to the withdrawal of the Green River Corridor as a possible "Wild or Scenic River."

3 If there is still time for comments, which I doubt that there is because of the low profile you have taken, I would appreciate more information on the proposed withdrawal. Please send me the "Draft Wild and Scenic River Study, Draft Environmental Statement" and the management plan (if one exists) for the area.

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Sincerely,



Mr. & Mrs. Mike Kouris

cc: Senator Simpson
Senator Wallop
Representative Cheney

3 This report and environmental statement was sent to you.

Comments

Mr. & Mrs. Mike Kouris
P.O. Box 31
Kinnear, WY 82516

November 10, 1979

Mr. Don Bock, Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

Dear Sir:

We are writing to comment on and object to the possible inclusion of the Green and Yampa Rivers as wild, scenic, or recreational under the "Wild and Scenic Rivers Act." Our major concern is with Segment A and B of the study area because these areas are ones that we have the most knowledge of and concern for. Before we address specific concerns we have of the areas we again want to state our views on the methods used by the government agencies in conducting the study on the area.

- 1** First, to our knowledge the private landowners in the area have been kept in the dark about the study and the report, Draft Wild and Scenic River Study, Green and Yampa Rivers. This was not ethical and is unfortunate because the only private landowners left in Segment B had been preserving the land and historical sites there before the "government" began its insatiable acquisition of all the private land in Brown's Park. We feel their input is necessary and invaluable for the planning of any project concerning the area. Could the reason for not soliciting their input be a fear that the study group would receive adverse comments about the project, about the poor management of the corridor thus far and about the harrassment by "government" employees of all the different agencies involved?

Secondly the public, myself included, has not been notified to make comments on the study through the normal public notices in the surrounding area community newspapers; again we can only draw the conclusion that the agencies involved would rather not have adverse comment or publicity.

- 2** Now the specific concerns we have on the report and recommendations it contains for designation of the corridor. We are definitely against the inclusion of the Green River corridor as a possible wild, scenic, or recreational river, under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. We are appalled at the statement in the report and from the letter we received from Mr. Bock, (letter enclosed), that a management plan has not been developed and will have to be developed after the designation. A management plan is the basis of how the area will be managed. There are proposed management plans in existence but are not being shared with the public because the intent of the "writers" of the Wild and Scenic Rivers

Responses

- 1** The Bureau of Outdoor Recreation (now the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service) apparently did not realize the strength of landowners' interest in the proposal, since there are only about 530 acres of private land in the Green and Yampa River corridors out of a total of 44,000. When the study was transferred to the National Park Service, we perpetuated this shortcoming. We did, however, hold two series of public meetings in the area, and we did send notices to area newspapers announcing the study and the public meetings, as well as the availability of the Draft Report and EIS. These efforts were aimed at informing and gaining the input of all interested persons, including landowners.

- 2** There are no management plans for the area that are based on river designation, and as provided by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, there will not be until the river is designated. The only proposals for the management plan are the recommendations for its contents which we made in chapter V. The federal agencies in the area, however, have management plans based on their existing authorities. These can be obtained from the Vernal offices of the Forest Service and BLM and from the Fish and Wildlife Service in Salt Lake City.

We could find no records of the private citizens on the reconnaissance trips, and so consulted the former study team leader. To the best of his recollection, they were Dave Sumner, Nancy Strong, Virginia Gheen, Karl Seethaler, and Roland Fischer. None was a landowner in the area. Landowner assistance was solicited at the initial public meetings by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, but none was offered.

Comments

-2-

Act will not be followed by the government employees in the field. We are writing to all elected officials in the three states involved in the proposed area and encouraging them to investigate the proposed management plans. We hope they will have more success than we in reviewing them. Additional information they and we might be interested in is a list of the representatives of concerned "private citizens" who accompanied the field reconnaissance team to the area before making the determination of river eligibility (from page 17 of report). Who were the concerned citizens? Landowners in the area?

- 3 Another statement in the report, Draft wild and scenic river study, Green and Yampa Rivers, that concerns us is the way it inferred that landowners on the river may keep their land and no condemnation will take place for fee title, just a few easements will be taken. These statements are a snow job and half truths. The fact is the government agencies cannot condemn for fee title of the private land on the Green River because as stated in the "Wild & Scenic Rivers Act" that if over 50% of the land is already owned by government agencies, no condemnation for land shall occur. "A limited number of riverfront scenic easements" (pages 20 & 21 of report), sounds minor in this instance, but in reality gives the BLM the control of all the land in the corridor. Is it worth the allotted price to the individual landowner of \$1500. per acre for an easement. NO!, a price cannot be put on the constitutional rights of individuals to own and control their own land.

- 4 The report made no mention of the subdivision and the people living in the subdivision located within a few feet of the corridor on Taylor Flats. We feel its presence should have been evaluated in the study. The wording in the report gives the reader a picture of Brown's Park being a primitive area with few residences. This is not a true picture of the area as there are at least five houses in the subdivision and approximately one hundred individuals own lots in the subdivision overlooking the Green River. These landowners are affected and their presence should have been evaluated in the study.

- 5 The validity of the study is also questionable. The methodology used in determining the facts concerning the area is vague. The government agencies involved furnished the data for the evaluation by the study group. It is obvious that projections and facts were presented in such a way as to insure the inclusion of the area in the Wild and Scenic Rivers system. An example of this is apparent in Table VIII-1 page 245 of the report (enclosed). From the material presented in the table, the study group concluded there is no expected impact by an increase in use whether existing management of the area continues or if the area is designated under the Wild Rivers System. How could they arrive at this conclusion? Just the publicity of the inclusion of the corridor will bring in more visitors. If the corridor is not designated we feel visitor use will grow slowly. The government agencies managing the area have not provided for the influx of people wanting to enjoy the river thus far and if the corridor is designated, it will not solve or even help in solving these problems. If anything the problems will be compounded resulting in even poorer experiences for visitors. By the

Responses

- 3 The BLM has taken a position that under a recreational classification, scenic easements would probably not be needed in the Browns Park segment. However, since that decision was made, due to the strength of review comments received favoring a scenic classification, this issue has been reexamined and the segment found eligible for the scenic category. A recommendation for this classification has been made in the Final Report.

We now believe it likely that, following designation, the BLM will seek scenic easements on two tracts of land involving 108 acres in the segment B river corridor. Existing uses of the land and future uses that would not degrade the river's values would not be affected. We would also point out that the easements would involve only two-tenths of 1 percent of the rivers corridor area, and that BLM would not control the entire river corridor.

- 4 We are revising the report to mention the Taylor Flats subdivision. That subdivision lies outside the river corridor; holdings within it will not be affected by river designation.

- 5 Clearly there will be impacts from expanded use of the area; but except for a small percentage, designation will not cause that expanding use. We based this conclusion on research by the HCRS on several rivers after designation. That research indicates that no or small increases in use are caused by designation. We projected the amount of facilities necessary to handle that amount of use and called for their construction in the report.

CommentsResponses

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designation under the Wild Rivers Act you will eliminate what we want to preserve - the natural beauty and outdoor recreation qualities of the river corridor.

- 6** It is stated in the report, "Brown's Park is a haven for waterfowl and wildlife." This was true fifteen years ago when the land was privately owned. At the base of Crouse Canyon an alfalfa hay field existed and deer and mammals were abundant feeding on the hay ground. Since the Federal Fish & Wildlife acquired the land (by threat of condemnation) the hay field has deteriorated and is now a weed patch and the one time thriving orchard has almost died out. This is an example of the poor management policies of the area. The "officials" who control the area do not live in the area and believe the land is going back to its natural state which they feel will support more wildlife. Anyone who has had anything to do with crops knows that wildlife thrive on producing hay ground. Ask any farmer or rancher how much wildlife takes advantage of their hay fields. There are many examples such as this in Brown's Park but the study does not include any comparables such as these.

We agree with the study on the many historical sites and the grand history of Brown's Park. But, management of these historical sites has enabled their destruction. Again many of the old buildings and Indian campgrounds have been destroyed, not by vandals, but by the government agencies in charge. Some examples of this are as follows:

- 1) The "Park Livestock Company" headquarters at the base of Crouse Canyon was one of the first. The old log home was extremely rich in history. It and every building on the headquarters was destroyed so that the Utah Fish & Wildlife could erect a new and modern headquarters for its employees.
- 2) The Parson's Cabin (pictured as a historical sight in the report) was barely saved in time by a local rancher from complete destruction by the government. She was able to get it on the State Historical Register but the remainder of the C.M. Taylor ranch met with the same fate as the Park Livestock headquarters, it was bulldozed and burned.
- 7) Numerous Indian campgrounds that were evidenced by teepee rings, graves, artifacts, and pottery were virtually destroyed when the BLM hooked giant chains between caterpillars and railed the cedars in the surrounding area of Rye Grass in Brown's Park. The BLM justified this destruction by the increase in production of grass for the wildlife. The area now is a maze of pine and cedar tree seedlings, overturned broken boulders, and huge piles of rotting wood (forbidden for use as firewood by local people). At a distance this assault has left a large ugly scar on the side of the mountain.

These are only three examples of many sad and costly blunders; now the government wants complete control of the area to preserve its beauty and history? We say this is arrogance in its extreme.

- 6** The area to which we believe you are referring at the base of Crouse Canyon is managed by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.

- 7** The chaining of the Rye Grass area took place in the 1960s; you are correct in stating the BLM undertook no historical and archaeological inventories before doing so. Under present policies, activities such as chaining could not take place without inventories. Firewood from the chaining can be used by local people. An indication of the change in BLM policies is that the agency has recently undertaken the restoration of the Jarvie Historical Site.

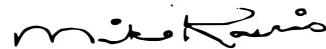
Comments

Responses

-4-

Again, We strongly object to the inclusion of Segment A and B of the Green River Corridor as possible scenic or recreational classification, under the Wild Rivers System.

Sincerely,



Mr. & Mrs. Mike Kouris

Enc. 2
cc Senator Simpson
Senator Wallop
Representative Cheney
Senator Hatch
Senator Garn
Representative McKay

**MOFFAT COUNTY
EXTENSION SERVICE**
EXTENSION AGENT IN CHARGE
EXTENSION AGENT
EXTENSION HOME AGENT
COURT HOUSE
CRAIG, COLORADO 81625

Comments

Responses

September 21, 1979
Craig, Co 81625

To: Don Bock
N.P.S. Rocky Mountain Region
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Co 80225

Re: Comments concerning the "Draft Wild and Scenic River Study and Draft Environmental Statement for the Green and Yampa Rivers."

As a member of a family whose existence in Colorado spans four generations, three of which are on the western slope of Colorado, I am deeply concerned with the proposals made in the above mentioned study.

It appears that the contributions to this statement most certainly have a great many of their priorities out of perspective. The 1970's in Moffat County, as throughout the rest of the United States, have brought enormous increases in the costs for energy and energy related commodities. A small section of the Middle East currently maintains a strangle hold on the free world of a proportion never before experienced.

1 Consistently throughout the draft proposal references are made to several species of fish that currently reside in portions of the river(s) studied. Generalized statements, based apparently on biased, emotionalized sentiment, suggest that the native, endangered species will in fact become threatened by upstream energy developments that would certainly contribute to the United States becoming a more energy dependent nation. It appears that the sentiments of the game management personnel have unexplainably taken a 360 degree turn concerning the preservation of the endangered species, Colorado Squawfish (*Ptychocheilus lucius*) and Humpback Chub (*Gila Cypha*). Documented evidence indicated that during the year 1962, Rotenone was introduced below the Flaming Gorge Dam to delete certain "undesirable" species in an effort to enhance trout fishing. The Colorado Squawfish and Humpback Chub were a target species of this project. Also noted in the reports were efforts later to detoxify the Green River at a point in the west end of Brown's Park. Detoxification efforts were documented to be unsuccessful at that time, so one can assume downstream damage was not prevented. Why the dramatic change in sentiment toward two specific species of fish? Noted also in the draft proposal were statements that would lead one to believe that the Colorado Squawfish and Humpback Chub populations are not presently maintaining population numbers. I would submit that there is a strong possibility that the Yampa River does not provide the perfect ecosystem for a static population of Colorado Squawfish and Humpback Chub. There also is no

1 The generalized statements you cite were based on the research of several individuals, including Vanicek and Kramer, "Life History of the Colorado Squawfish, *Ptychocheilus lucius*, and the Colorado Chub, *Gila Robusta*, in the Green River in Dinosaur National Monument, 1964-1966," in *Transactions of the American Fisheries Society* 98:2, pages 193-208. This source also mentions the rotenone program. On page 19 (footnote 2) in the draft report, we also referred to research and a paper by Seethaler, McAda, and Wydowski. We did not find the article or the paper contained "biased, emotionalized sentiment." The effects of rotenone are temporary; had conditions been suitable for the endangered species after closure of the dam, they would have returned after the rotenone dissipated.

Please realize that since the early 1960's, when nongame fish populations were eliminated from the Green River below Flaming Gorge Dam, there have been considerable changes in attitudes and agency responsibilities toward what were then considered "trash fish." This culminated in the passage of the Endangered Species Act, and subsequent definition of the humpback chub and the Colorado squawfish as species that required protection under a law administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Also see response #6 to George Christopoulos of the State of Wyoming.

Bioassay studies to determine the effects of varying water quality on the endangered fish have not been done, although they will be initiated soon by the Fish and Wildlife Service. However, the article cited above indicates that altered temperatures and flow regimes are related to the decline in populations. The Fish and Wildlife studies, as well as new evidence from the works of Behnke and Holden may elucidate this point.

Comments

Page 2

scientific evidence, at this time, to indicate that altering the water quality by upstream development will in anyway jeopardize the existence of these endangered species.

- 2** Noted on page 2, paragraph 5, is the statement that additional projects in the Yampa River Basin "could" adversely impact esthetics, wilderness qualities and rafting. This appears to be solely a one sided opinion by the authors, rather than a fact based or rational, objective, scientific evidence derived from unbiased research. Certainly major decisions, concerning the status of the Yampa and Green Rivers, will not be made on such statements!
- 3** The authors also seem to feel that very little water will be needed to develop oil shale reserves in northwestern Colorado. As stated on page 31, paragraph 1, the statement declares that through the Paraho process significant amounts of oil shale could be processed with very little water. I suggest the N.D.S. leave such decisions involving oil shale processing to the scientists within the industry. Furthermore, from all research recently completed on nearby oil shale tracts, it appears significant amounts of water will be necessary to produce oil in any significant amount.

Anyone who has lived within the arid confines of northwestern Colorado, northeastern Utah or southwestern Wyoming, can attest that water is critical for survival and to perform the basic functions of life. Without water intensive agriculture becomes nonexistent. Upstream development of the Yampa River is vital if the life styles in this area are to be maintained.

The statement is also made that more effective management of the area(s) in question will be possible with institution of the wild and scenic designations.

This again can be interpreted as a presumptive statement. I fail to see that implementing another level of government bureaucracy will indeed prove to be a more effective management tool.

Throughout the statement multiple references are made to recreation and recreational interests. Estimates as low as two percent are stated as the additional recreational impact that would result from this proposal. Additional costs of \$12,000 for a two percent increase in recreation pressure could very easily increase proportionately with expected increases in user days. Proposals to limit recreation pressures will be practically impossible to implement without additional staffing and costs.

- 4** According to Dr. Vernon B. Swanson, Colorado State University Extension Sheep Specialist, the Bighorn Sheep population has in no way been affected by the grazing of domestic sheep on ranges traversed by these native species. Lung worms are almost nonexistent within domestic sheep populations, and the number of acres of rangeland, on which

Responses

- 2** Published information we have been collecting and examining indicates the following downstream effects have resulted from major water project development on other Colorado Basin rivers: loss of beaches, invasion of phreatophytes, channel degradation and bed armoring, benthic organism alterations, navigation obstruction by side-stream flooding, loss of driftwood, alteration of boxelder communities and the resulting changes in wildlife, alterations in fisheries, and changes in aesthetic and wilderness qualities. See Fluvial Processes in Geomorphology by Leopold, Wolman and Miller (1954), the environmental statement for the Grand Canyon River Management Plan (NPS, 1979), and the Bureau of Reclamation's environmental assessment of the operation of Glen Canyon Dam for treatments of these matters.

Research into recreation behavior in the monument indicates that high flows are one of the most desirable aspects of boating the Yampa, and that most recreationists shift their floating to the Green when flows diminish below 3,000 to 5,000 cfs. See The Dinosaur National Monument Whitewater River Recreation Study, by Richard Schreyer et al., Institute for the Study of Outdoor Recreation and Tourism, Department of Forestry and Outdoor Recreation, Utah State University, Logan, Utah (1976). Finally, the statement to which you refer, which was taken out of context, is supported by material at various places in the draft.

- 3** We altered the sentence in question. Our projections (see page 230 of the draft) indicated a range of about 150,000-250,000 acre-feet. We agree this is a significant amount.

- 4** Your information, we learned, is essentially correct; we modified the photo caption in question. We would note, however, that studies in the Monument have not indicated that floater use diminishes the bighorns' range in Lodore; they appear to utilize those portions of the canyon that are also used by people by choice, and do not withdraw particularly from human contact.

Comments

Responses

Page 3

both Bighorn Sheep and domestic sheep co-exist in the area of question is unusual. Evidence, also from Colorado State University, indicates that higher than average levels of inbreeding with the native Bighorn Sheep populations now tend to lead to susceptibility to lung worm infestation. Recreationalists, that float the river numerous times throughout the early summer, reduce the area in which the Bighorn Sheep can range, and may contribute to added inbreeding depression.

In conclusion, as a trained animal scientist, with a great deal of exposure to various scientific and technical publications, this proposal, The Draft Wild and Scenic River Study for the Green and Yampa Rivers, is one of the most biased, least objective statements I have ever been exposed to. I sincerely hope that no major decisions, or conclusions, are to be derived directly from this study. A majority of the material contained within this report is based on emotionalized, opinionated input with no research or scientific evidence to substantiate conclusions drawn.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen B. LeDell
Stephen B. LeDell

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Comments

Responses

MOFFAT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT RE. NO. 1

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
715 YAMPA AVE. CRAIG, COLORADO 81625

October 3, 1979

Mr. Don Brock, Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado .80225

Dear Mr. Brock,

"I would like to enter my remarks concerning the "Draft Wild and Scenic River Study Draft Environmental Statement" Green and Yampa Rivers.

- 1 On page 51 you state "The altered flow would undoubtedly affect the endangered fish species adversely", and then on page 328 you state "one of the problems faced by all Federal agencies is the lack of information on the habitat requirements of the species". This seems to be rather inconsistant to say the least.

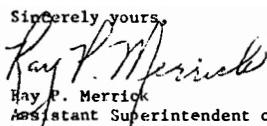
Recreation is one of the big needs all over the country and especially in an energy impacted area such as Moffat County. This item isn't even mentioned on page 46 under the section on benefits of the Juniper-Cross Mountain Project.

- 2 Some of the large water areas like Flaring Gorge are producing record fish for the sportsman and really don't seem to be endangering the species.

The benefits of the Juniper-Cross Mountain projects even in your study would outweigh the designation of the rivers as wild and scenic. There are hundreds even thousands of young people moving to this area who would gain much more from the rivers being controlled by dams than them reverting to wild and scenic.

- 1 We altered the statement on page 51 and deleted the memorandum from the appendix, since the memorandum is now considered out of date and inappropriate for inclusion--especially in light of recent amendments to the Endangered Species Act.

- 2 It is not clear which species you mean. However, the effects of large impoundments have so far been to affect the endemic endangered fish adversely.

Sincerely yours,

Ray P. Merrick
Assistant Superintendent of Schools

RPM/lz

	Comments	Responses
	<p style="text-align: center;">Rags Route, Box 74 Craig, Colorado 81625 September 22, 1979</p>	
Mr. Don Sock National Park Service P. O. Box 25257 Denver, Colorado 80225		
Dear Mr. Sock:		
A study team for a Wild and Scenic River study of the Green and Yampa Rivers was organized in January, 1976. (Page 15) The result of this study was made available to the public July 27, 1977. (Page 159) Three years and seven months should be enough time to make an accurate report, especially in this case when there has already been study after study that could have been consulted.		
1 Some of the errors are so very obvious. The statement is made on page 62 that the major north-south route is Colorado 394 which traverses the study area from Baggs, Wyoming, and I-70 to Rifle, Colorado, and I-70. All the highway signs along that road say Colorado 13 and Colorado 229. Also I-70 is fifty miles north of Baggs.	1 We made these changes.	
614 2 On page 64, mention is made of an east-west bus line through Craig, but no mention is made of the bus line from Craig south to Grand Junction. The statement is made that "Dutch John and Laramie in Daggett County also have municipal airports." Apparently the study team did not find the city-county airport at Craig which is odd because Colorado 394 is the few miles of road that goes from Craig to and past the airport.	2 We made these changes.	
3 On page 97, the statement is made that Shallow Canyon was named by Powell in 1859. Anyone taking a study of this area should know Powell's first trip down the Green was in 1869 even though he might not know that Powell was teaching in Illinois in 1859.	3 Thank you for pointing out this typographical error; we made the change.	
Such obvious errors make one wonder how many other errors there are that are not so obvious.		
4 The study team should have had time in more than three years to eliminate the contradictions. Page 124 says title to all but two parcels of land within the Green River corridor (Segment C) is held by the Park Service and that these two are held by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources. The map on page 127 shows one parcel held by the State and the other parcel a private holding.	4 We have revised the map.	
5 The Yampa River corridor has rich archeological deposits in excellent state of preservation according to page 159. The chart on page 159 says the area has no outstandingly remarkable cultural values which includes archeologic values.	5 We consulted the State Archaeologist of Colorado and revised the table according to his direction.	
6 The statement is made on page 176 that the roads into Deer Lodge Park at the beginning and John Park at the end are the only public accesses in the 42 miles of Segment D (Yampa River). Page 170 says there is an access point to the river at the Mantle Ranch which is closed to the public. If the study team had been in that area, they would have found the public campground in Castle Park served by county road 155 much easier to get to than the private Mantle ranch.	6 There is no public campground at Castle Park and, as far as we can determine, no County Road 155 in this vicinity. In addition, the road to Mantle Ranch is not a public access to the river. No changes were made.	

Comments

- 7 Population projections are based on a 1975 report (page #3) which is about as useful as the 1960 census in this fast-growing community.
- 8 Protection for the southern bald eagle and for the black-footed ferret which has never been seen in the area can be envisioned by the study team, but water-related regulation on the Colorado River behind the Uncompahgre Dam cannot. A member of the study team was heard to say no figures had been given to them on the subject. That information was given to them on the southern bald eagle and the ferret? (Page 59) Also, what whooping crane told the study team that cranes might come by?
- 9 The comment on commercial fishery in 1910 in relation to the sculpin fish is made on page 1-3. Just where was this fishery? There is no record of such an industry along the Yampa, and in 1910, there was neither population nor transportation in the area to support a commercial fishery.
- 10 The study team has had a terrible time with roads. Concern is shown about the Maybell to Rock Springs road throughSegments A and B. It is mentioned on pages 237, 243, 242, 246, 292 and 302. No one in his right mind would go that roundabout way when he could use county road 10-11. On pages 215 and 253, the road is referred to as the Maybell to Dutch John road which it is.

This whole study has been useless - already over 88% of the study area is under control of the Department of Interior. About one percent is privately owned and the rest is controlled by some sort of governmental agency. Of course, maybe the study team did not know that because there are computation errors too numerous to mention.

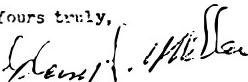
420
The study has been wasteful of natural resources: the timber to make the paper, the petroleum to make the ink, the energy to print the report, the fuel to distribute it. It has been wasteful of human resources: anyone with a library at hand could have cribbed the material from sources already available in less than three years.

The study proposes more study on endangered species and proposed developments and the setting up of another governmental agency - all of which sounds like a make-work program. Such a program is not needed. There are many help-wanted ads in our local papers. On the other hand, the government is probably the only employer who would tolerate help that can't even read road signs or use an adding machine competently.

This report is symptomatic of what is wrong with our government today - careless, erroneous, contradictory, wasteful, incompetent and incomprehensible.

In short, it is a damn sorry job.

I request that my letter be made part of the official report.

Yours truly,

Glenn L. Miller

Responses

- 7 See response #7 to Moffat County Planning Commission.
- 8 We altered the name of the bald eagle. Other fish and wildlife information came from the Colorado Division of Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Also, see response #1 to Cindy South.
- 9 The commercial fishery was near Grand Junction (see Ellis, 1914, "Fishes of Colorado"). One of the other species, the humpback sucker, supported a commercial fishery in Saguaro Lake, Arizona, as late as 1949 (Hubbs and Miller, "Hybridization in Nature Between the Fish Genera Catostomus and Xyrauchen," papers of the Michigan Academy of Science, Arts and Letters; 207-241, 1953).
- 10 We have made this change.

Comments

Responses

238 Wad. 245 S.
Elevated. Ld. 84075
Sept. 3, 1979

Nat'l. Park Service
Denver Technical Center
Denver, Colo.

Client block:

We have invited comments on the draft report on environmental relations on the proposed to classify certain segments of the Green River Colorado River under the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act of 1968.

I have enclosed your report & submit the following:

Your recommendations are essentially the same as those determined about 10 years ago when a similar study was instigated by B.L.H. and a trip down the river (Green) was jointly taken by representatives of the several agencies involved in your present study.

The Bureau of Land Management never followed through with its assignments, prepare a report. In general that, finally, some action is underway -

I believe that the proposed classification of each of the segments A, B, C, D are

	Comments	Responses
	<p>Appropriate and in accordance with the <u>Act</u>. Existing <u>intrusions</u> - powerlines roads, gas pipe lines, etc in segments A, C & D should remain and be some what of a variance to Webt + scenic classification. I believe however that designation is necessary to preserve the unique values of this system of river + canyon ecology in general.</p> <p>My concern is primarily with respect to the future management of the water, the land and the people, the wildlife etc, particularly in the segments <u>A + B</u>.</p>	
422	<p>In the past years, severe losses have occurred in the fisheries of the river due to the extreme + rapid fluctuations of the river flow from Flaming Gorge Dam. Releases have been <u>automatic</u> to meet power demands, but the once <u>Blue Ribbon trout stream</u> has been lost. Rough fish (carp) now are inhabiting the entire river. (Partly brought on by the rise in water temperatures). I recommend that the B.C. more effectively coordinate</p>	<p>1 We have communicated your concerns to the managing agencies. These points will also be considered during management planning if the rivers are designated.</p>

Comments	Responses
<p>The power generating capacity of the many creeks flowing off the inter-connected system is about the extreme & rapid fluctuation of this stream can be eased. The minimum flow should not be lower than 1200 c.f.s. & the maximum not above 4000 c.f.s.</p> <p>If a good trout habitat is to be maintained</p>	<p>Juster: I recommend that the retention dam on Red Creek (Clay Basin) be constructed to alleviate the mud flows that occur each spring & after each summer thunder storm in the Red Cr. drainage. The present consequence is severe degradation of available values & habitat island the Red Cr. confluence with the Green River.</p> <p>Juster: I recommend that the Taylor Flat Bridge be upgraded to permit the free flow of small boat traffic (hence at least at segment of the bridge).</p> <p>Also: I recommend that no motors be permitted on boats on any segment.</p> <p>Also: Livestock grazing on riparian land should be prohibited for the immediate river area. With goats which kept a</p>

	Comments	Responses
	<p>personnel and used only between Sept. 1. + Apr. <u>30</u>.⁴ Other mgmt practices - including handling of garbage - use of camp ground need be upgraded -</p> <p>In your report you have some minor errors:</p> <p>2 On page 42-59 no mention is made of wildlife 3 on page 62 - no mention made of you cause road from Vernal to Dutch John + thence Burn Park via Crows Canyon.</p> <p>4 On page 64 you say recreational resources are <u>ample</u>. I say they are <u>numerous</u></p> <p>5 On page 83 - you say "birds are plentiful" ??</p> <p>6 On page 85 no mention is made of the mud inflows from Red Cr. that cause serious degradation.</p>	<p>2 Wildlife is discussed on pages 54-59 of the draft report.</p> <p>3 We have made this change, but on page 87.</p> <p>4 We made this change.</p> <p>5 Birds are plentiful in the area.</p> <p>6 The high influx of sediments from Red Creek is mentioned on page 85 of the draft.</p>
424	<p>I think more attention <u>should</u> be given to the historic values of Brown Park.</p> <p>I suggest more careful editing of your final report.</p> <p>Yours truly, R.D. Nelson Concerned citizen</p>	

Comments

September 22, 1979

National Park Service
Denver Office
Denver, Colo. 80225

Dear Sirs:

I am writing a letter of protest about the proposed Green and Yampa Rivers Wild and Scenic River's.

I feel that the draft Wild and Scenic River Study draft environmental statement , June 1979 should be done away with for the following reasons.

- 425
1. The draft study was done by persons that have never lived a day in the west and doesn't realize that water here is very important.
 2. The draft study contradicts itself on pages 32, 46, 51, 52, 59, .
 1. 3. The study was implemented by Eastern Environmental groups who lack the knowledge or understanding of western problems; they don't have to make a living and pay taxes in the west. They want to preserve the west , but it isn't realized that there are ones of us out here that have to make a living and produce food for their kind.
 4. All this Wildness, (Forest Service & BLM) , and Wild and Scenic Rivers is just another land grab by the government and for more government control.
 5. Can the Federal government justify lock up land that contains oil and minerals and grass to graze livestock?
 3. The people who live along the Snake and Yampa rivers use the water to raise hay and domestic use plus many of the towns use the water for drinking. Is there no such thing as individual water rights along these rivers and tributaries any more? This must be taken into consideration.
 7. The way things are going the BLM, Forest Lands & National Parks should be state controlled, they could then deal with their local problems at the local level.
 8. I feel that this Wild & Scenic study should be redone by parties that are familiar with the areas being studied for Wild & Scenic Rivers not some individual freshly out of a college back out that has know knowledge of the areas and also the history of the areas being considered.

Responses

- 1 The study was done by people who have been long-term residents of Colorado and Utah; several study team members have also had considerable experience in and responsibility for water resource planning matters. Study of the Yampa and Green Rivers was initiated by an amendment to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. This was introduced by former Senator Peter Dominick of Colorado. The extension of the Green River study area was requested by Governor Rampton of Utah, with the support of Governor Lamm of Colorado.
- 2 We have examined the pages in question, but did not find the contradictions to which you refer.
- 3 This proposal will not affect valid existing (vested) water rights.

Comments

Responses

-2-

There are a great number of things that should be taken into consideration before any final decision is made. This whole proposal is totally out of hand and unreasonable and a great number of things have been ignored and overlooked.

Sincerely,

Robert Nottingham
Box 23
Lavell, Colo. 81640

Robert Nottingham

Comments

Responses

Public Lands Institute

Incorporated

1740 High Street, Denver, Colorado 80218
Telephone 303-388-4171

September 10, 1979

Regional Director, Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

Dear Glen:

The Public Lands Institute appreciates this opportunity to support wild and scenic river designation for the Green and Yampa Rivers. Please make this letter a part of the public record.

PLI agrees with the Park Service recommendations for Segments A, C, and D, but we concur with the Colorado C&R that Segment B on the Green from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore (32 miles) should be classified as "scenic." The upper portion of the segment is a superb trout fishery, and wildlife and historical values are also excellent. Only 5 percent of the streamside is privately owned, and there is very little development.

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Both rivers possess several "outstandingly remarkable" values: recreation, fish and wildlife, scenery, and historical sites. These values were recognized when the Antiquities Act was used to create Dinosaur National Monument. However, monument status does not necessarily confer protection to the source of these values - the free-flowing rivers. PLI sees the opportunity to protect these values through the establishment of minimum stream flows in the management plans as the major benefit of inclusion of these rivers in the Wild and Scenic River System.

1 A major concern related to minimum stream flows is that all the requirements of the rivers from an ecological standpoint should be considered in setting the flows. There is a tendency on rivers such as these which are used intensively for rafting to consider only the requirements of this form of recreation, rather than looking at the integrity of the ecosystem.

PLI agrees with the recommendation that the FERC should be required to make a finding that any water project on the Yampa "will not have a direct and adverse effect on the values for which the river might be designated."

In conclusion, the Park Service, HCRS, and the State of Colorado are to be commended

1 Partly because of the concerns you have brought out, we have deleted our recommendation on minimum flows for the Yampa. However, if the river is designated, we expect the outstanding values associated with flows, as identified by the study team, to be preserved; thus, rafting will not be the only item considered. The levels of minimum flows maintained will most likely also be influenced by the outcome of litigation now before the Colorado Supreme Court to establish certain reserved water rights (and minimum flows) for Dinosaur National Monument. It is our understanding that ecological factors are being considered in this litigation. See text for more information on this.

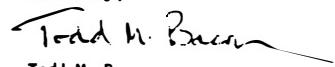
Comments

Responses

Regional Director, National Park Service
Re: Green and Tampa Wild and Scenic Designation
Page 2

for an outstanding study. The information, including text, maps, figures and pictures, was clearly and attractively presented. This handling of the material is very encouraging to those of us who must work with government documents on a regular basis.

Sincerely,



Todd M. Bacon
Project Director

Comments

Responses

Craig, Colorado
September 20, 1979

Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O.Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir:

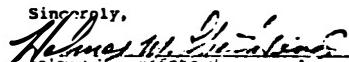
I Request that the following letter be made part of the official record.

I oppose including portions of the Yampa and Green Rivers in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System for the following reasons:

- 429
1. The entire reason for designating the Yampa and Green Rivers wild and scenic is the desire to control the use of these rivers.
 2. This unreasonable control will add to the energy shortage by effectively killing power projects such as the construction of Juniper Dam, elimination of needed water for coal production and other needed energy projects, elimination of needed water for additional population growth and agricultural uses for food production.
 3. The people do not want this designation as it is detrimental to their rights as guaranteed in the Constitution of The United States.
 4. This designation puts unconstitutional authority in the hands of the Secretary of Interior, as he has the final say to approve or disapprove water projects or other projects above the designated area, such as the Juniper Dam Project.
 5. The area is already effectivley managed by The Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service and the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources as of the 44,000 plus acres included in the study, only 108 approximate acres are privately owned.

The supporters of this Wild and Scenic River designation should give their real reasons for eliminating growth and development in the Yampa River Valley, instead of distorting it under the heading of wanting to retain white water river recreation, which they have not proved will be degraded if such designation is not made.

Again, I request the above letter be made a part of the official record.

Sincerely,

Holmes M. McFetridge
595 Barclay
Box 608
Craig, Colorado 81625

- 1 The only power given by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to the Secretary of the Interior over upstream projects is over those which require federal licensing or assistance; those which do not are unaffected. Even with this, the power is not absolute, as a decision could be reversed by the President, the Congress, or the U.S. courts.

HMS:hms

Comments

Responses

November 1979

Mr. Don Beck, Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Co 80225

Dear Sir:

We are writing in reference to the Draft Bill and Scenic River Study, Draft Environmental Statement, Final Environmental Review, June 19. We are deeply interested and want to know about the proposals.

1. We own property on Taylorville and have been building a home for the past four years for our family. Are there to be future and/or long-term plans for the future and the heritage for our children. Will there be future restrictions? Will our family be jeopardized? We were not notified of the draft statement by any official means. Will there be other drafts or plans prepared that will affect our holding's without prior official notifications?

There are people living in the Park with a history of civilization in this area and we will continue that future generation with every one in this area. We urge you to remember that the residents of Browns Park are also the people of this country. Many years of work, hardships, loss, and monetary costs in every part of the Colorado Park Country

- 1 we have been informed by the Bureau of Land Management that your property lies outside the river corridor; your holdings will not be affected by wild and scenic river designation, nor will there be any restrictions on them because of such designation. Wild and scenic river designation will act to keep Browns Park essentially as it is at present.

July 2010 English Dialect
Survey
Questionnaire
Completed by
John Gledhill

John Gledhill

England.

In recent years of the work and down time
available, I would do it as frequently as I can.
The fact that the Queen's Royal in Buxton falls
of the upper part contains the opportunity
why the audience of the first, the dining room
of the year, the theatre where there could
be a drawing, all for the public we have worked.

Comments

Responses

The family receive that they have the a
whole range from amateur dramatics and plays
of their own to professional entertainments and
shows, all for the public we have worked.

Comments	Responses
National Park Service P.O. Box 25287 Denver, Colorado Attention: Dan Bock 80225	Cindy Scott 756 Washington St. Craig, Colorado 81625

Mr. Bock,

I am writing in concern to the environmental study of the Yampa and Green rivers.

On Page 46 of this study under the Yampa-Cross Mountain Project, you fail to list recreational activities as a benefit.

432 I feel this is a very worthwhile benefit. It would be excellent for boating, fishing and rafting. These recreational benefits are much to important to be left out of this study.

2 In fact in the subak study you have left out the recreational benefits. I want this letter in the draft wild and scenic study and the draft environmental statement of the Green & Yampa rivers.

Yours
 Cindy Scott

1 We have altered our discussion on this topic. However, please note that twice during the study we attempted to obtain this information from the Colorado River Water Conservation District or the environmental studies contractor to the district. We were told it had not been developed.

2 Chapters VII and XI and appendix A treat recreational benefits that would result from implementation of the proposal or alternatives to the proposal.

Comments

Responses

3617 Kansas Ave
Cheyenne Wyo 82001

Mr. Harlan

I am quite concerned about the potential impact of the Green River
Hills diversion river study and have
thoroughly contacted from the State
Geological Survey.

Cheyenne City long range water
planning division in 1954 and two
stages of this project were scaring
development.

41
1. At higher the river study will not
interfere substantially with development
of the planned Cheyenne water system.

1 See response #2 to Governor Herschler.

Sincerely,
Mrs. G. D. Johnson

Comments

Responses

Regional Director
National Park Service
P O Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

Dear Sir,

I am writing you today to add some comments for review on the Draft Wild and Scenic River Study EIS on the Green and Yampa rivers.

I would like to have this letter included in the comments section of the final EIS.

1 I have several specific comments on the EIS of June 1979. On page 8 of the report it is stated that the minimum flow of the Yampa river as a planning guideline be 2,500 cfs for May 1 to June 1. I believe that this figure is low and should be at least 6,000 cfs because of the nature of the Yampa river rapids. Below 4,000 cfs the Yampa rapids, such as Warm Springs, Big Joe, Little Joe, and Tepee are almost non-existent or offer very little challenge to any boater above the beginner skill level. However, once water levels reach 8,000 cfs it is a different river, with difficult and challenging maneuvering required. A study by Richard Schreyer et al, The Dinosaur National Monument Whitewater River Recreation Study, showed conclusively that whitewater thrills and adventure is exactly what people want most on a river trip in Dinosaur National Monument. Therefore, I think it is extremely important that the relationship between high water levels and boater satisfaction is clear, and that your minimum water level be raised to at least 6,000 cfs.

434
2 On page 65, you mention very briefly other river recreation opportunities in the study area. Cross Mountain Gorge is not given enough coverage as to its importance for recreation use and potential use. In recent years this canyon has been the subject of two river running national television specials. I and hundreds of other people have run this canyon and believe it to be some of the best whitewater in the state of Colorado. I believe that Cross Mountain Canyon should be included in the study area and should be classified as wild in the final EIS.

3 On page 151, you state that "the Yampa's rapids require little maneuvering". This is entirely false as anyone who has made the pull at Warm Springs rapid knows. Again the relationship between high water and high boater satisfaction is

1 We have deleted wild and scenic river flow recommendations for the Yampa.

2 We have introduced some information on boating in Cross Mountain Canyon. Extending the study to cover that gorge should be sought from the Congress, rather than the study team.

3 Compared to the rapids of the Selway; the Arkansas above Buena Vista; or individual rapids like Waterwheel and Hancock on the Middle Fork of the Salmon; Hance, Crystal, Houserock, and Dubendorf in Grand Canyon; and Cross Mountain, the rapids of the Yampa in the monument require little maneuvering. One member of the study team who has traversed Warm Springs Rapid about 30 times in craft ranging from slalom kayaks through paddle rigs to 33-foot pontoons notes that by getting out of position at the top, one can be forced into a great deal of maneuvering. Correctly positioned, all of these craft can miss the hole either by drifting or by a few strokes. We made no changes.

We introduced the information on boater satisfaction as correlated with high water stages.

Comments

not clearly stated. Dinosaur National Monument has boater use records back to the late 1960's which confirm that the demand for private permits on the Yampa river is highest during the period of highest runoff. The aforementioned Schreyer study confirms that whitewater excitement is the most sought after experience of a Dinosaur river trip. No mention is made of this relationship in the report. The data is available and of key importance to this study: why is it not included in the EIS?

- 4 On the same page, very little mention is given to the fact that the "wild" nature of the Yampa river is due to its free-flowing water regime. It is truly different from the Green for this reason alone and your classification of the Yampa as "wild" is mainly the result of its high runoff flow pattern. I think that this relationship should also be brought out more strongly than you have done. If the Yampa is to represent a vestige of primitive America (as is stated in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act) then a more adequate description of the affect that high runoff plays in regard to the Yampa's unique scenic and recreational features should be undertaken.

- 5 On page 244, I hope that you can add to the recreation section the fact that adoption of the recommended designations will prevent Federal actions that directly and significantly affect any component of the National System, thus preserving scenic values and hopefully recreational values.

In closing, I would like to give my strong support for the recommended designations as outlined in this EIS, with the revisions mentioned above. Thanks for this opportunity to comment on your planning efforts.

435

Sincerely,
Patrick Tierney
Patrick Tierney

P.T.
1st Draft P.D.
FEB 12, 1981
P.T.

Responses

- 4 The Yampa's "wild" nature" is in part due to its free-flowing characteristics, as you point out. But the classification of the Yampa as a "wild" river is based on criteria in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act which mainly have to do with levels of human development. An entirely flat river could be classified as "wild" if it were accessible by trail only and lacked other human intrusions. In several places in the report, we have attempted to bring out the correlation between high undammed flows and the unique experience of boating the Yampa.

- 5 We covered this on pages 234-240 of the draft.

Utah Audubon Society

September 5, 1979

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25257
Denver, Colorado 80225



Comments

sir;

Members of the Board of the Utah Audubon Society support the proposal of the U.S. Department of the Interior to designate 91 miles of the Green River and 47 miles of the Yampa River as part of the National Wild and Scenic River system.

We urge that Environmental Quality Alternative 2 be adopted in order to give both rivers the highest form of protection. This would designate segments A and B as 'scenic' and segments C and D as 'wild' and offer better protection from any future development along these rivers.

436
We feel as many natural river areas as possible need to be protected and preserved, especially in Utah where the design of certain Central Utah Projects will destroy streams with blue-ribbon fishery qualities.

We are very concerned that there will be an increase in disturbance of waterfowl nesting areas in Brown's Park (page 239) and urge that management of this area employ every means possible to discourage activities in this area during the nesting season!

Please enter this in the record as official comment on the DES for the Green and Yampa Rivers.

Respectfully,
Utah Audubon Society Board

David McKeown, President
Donald A. Hadley, Member Bd
Gerry Harper, Treasurer
John L. Johnson, At-Large
Marilyn Steele, Sec.
Richard C. Van Wagoner, Vice President
Eunice L. Waggoner, Editor

Responses

1 These views will be considered during the management planning period, if the rivers are designated.

UTAH WILDLIFE & OUTDOOR RECREATION FEDERATION
Affiliated with the National Wildlife Federation
P.O. Box 15636
Salt Lake City, Utah 84115



Responses

Regional Director, NPS
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80255

20 September 1979

Dear Sir:

The Utah Wildlife and Outdoor Recreation Federation, through it's Land Use Planning Committee and Board of Directors, has carefully studied the draft report on wild and scenic river study and environmental statement (Dis 79-48) for segments of the Green and Yampa Rivers in Utah and Colorado. We realize we are delinquent in submitting our comments, but trust they will be incorporated into your final report. Our primary concerns are with respect to those portions in Utah under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service and the BLM. We agree, however, that the entire system studied should be considered for classification under the Wild and Scenic River Act of 1968.

It is interesting to note that your proposals are essentially the same as those tentatively arrived at by an earlier study in 1970, which was initiated by BLM and participated in by the Park Service, Forest Service, Bureau of Reclamation, Fish and Wildlife Service, Utah State Department of National Resources (Harmston) and Colorado State Department of National Resources (Tom Jenick).

We (UWORF) concur with your proposed classifications for each of the four segments. We believe, however, that special management practices must be invoked if these segments - particularly A & B are to be preserved as special areas. We suggest the following:

437

1. That the flow of the Green River from Flaming Gorge Reservoir be allowed to fluctuate only between 1500 CFS and 4000 CPS. The extreme rapid fluctuation of the past year (400 CFS to 5000 CFS) has, in our opinion, resulted in severe degradation of the fisheries between the dam and the Colorado State line. With the severe scouring of riverbed and the increased water temperature, carp are now inhabiting the river up to Little Hole and will continue to move up stream. The likelihood of natural production of trout with the present regimen of the river is nil. Changes in the river flow should be gradual. The Bureau of Reclamation could regulate these changes through their western states interconnected power system. The supply of power demands could be allocated to several generating plants to diminish the single plant impact.

2. No mention is made of the serious stream degradation that results from flood inflow from Red Creek during summer storms and

1 We have communicated your concerns to the agencies managing the river corridor at present, in case action can be taken on them in the near future. If the river is designated, these points will be considered during management planning.

As we have noted in the report, it may not be legally possible to require alteration of the flows through Flaming Gorge Dam for reasons other than power generation.

Please note changes and additions made in the Final Report and Environmental Statement regarding your items 1, 2, and 3. Regarding item 5, we have changed our classification recommendation for the Browns Park segment to "scenic."

Comments	Responses
----------	-----------

spring runoff. The BLM has proposed a "retention dam" on Red Creek to relieve this serious problem (fisheries, aesthetic etc.) and, to also provide for stream stabilization and water foul and other wildlife habitat enhancement in the Clay Basin area. We support the BLM proposal.

3. No mention is made of the Taylor Flat Bridge which provides access to lands on Taylor Flat and other areas. Although the bridge was constructed by private enterprise, we believe it is within the segment B proposed for "recreational" classification. We recommend that this bridge be reinforced, raised at least in part (for 2 segments) to permit the easy flow of small boat traffic under the bridge during peak flows.

4. We recommend that grazing by domestic livestock be excluded from public land within immediate (1/8 mile) view of the river, "watering gaps" should be kept to an absolute minimum and should be opened to livestock use, only during the late fall and winter seasons.

5. Although segment B does not likely qualify as a scenic river we recommend that further intrusions (structures, water diversions, etc., be kept to a minimum. Little Swallow Canyon and Big Swallow Canyon are very scenic and quite unique and these qualities should be preserved. We further recommend that no motors be allowed on boats in any segment of the rivers here studied.

Respectfully Submitted



SHELDON M. EPPICH, President
Utah Wildlife Federation

Comments

Responses

VANDEHEI-KILTY, INC.

MERIDEN ROUTE BOX 36 • CHEYENNE, WYOMING 82001 • (307) 634.2638

November 14, 1979

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado

Dear Sir:

The officers, directors and stockholders of Vandehhei-Kilty, Inc. take strong exception to the proposal to designate certain portions of the Green River in Colorado and the Yampa River in Utah as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system.

- 1 It is our understanding that such a designation would preclude the State of Wyoming or any of the communities in the state from developing their legitimate water rights on the Green River and the various tributaries that feed the Colorado River system. This is unthinkable!

I know that you are aware that Wyoming and the residents of this state are going to be called upon to make great sacrifices as the natural resources of the state are developed to meet the energy needs of the United States. Water will be required for this undertaking, Mr. Director, and water will also be needed by the growing population of Wyoming, the people who will be called upon to perform this vital task for the nation.

The proposal appears to be still one more attempt by the federal government to usurp the legal rights of the sovereign states. In the interests of conservation and more efficient use of our water resources in the Rocky Mountain area, we believe that it makes good sense to provide for upstream storage and use of water wherever and whenever possible, for agricultural, industrial and municipal needs. This pattern can be repeated many times as streams make their way to the sea, thereby making the benefits of our streams and rivers available to a large number of people, rather than just to the fortunate few who can enjoy a white water adventure!

The people involved in this business have roots that date back more than 100 years in Wyoming. We have engaged in the ranching and farming business for seven decades, and we are keenly aware of the impact that water resources have on our survival. Consequently, we are in favor of amending the proposal to permit reasonable and thoughtful development of legitimate water rights. There is ample evidence to demonstrate that water resources can be developed with understanding and consideration of our natural environment.

- 1 We stated in the Draft EIS that designation would have no effect on any development of the Green River above Flaming Gorge. See also response #2 to Governor Herschler.

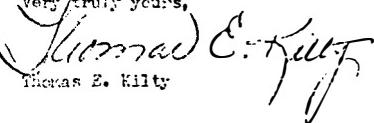
Section 13(e) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act states, "Nothing contained in this Act shall be construed to alter, amend, repeal, interpret, modify, or be in conflict with any interstate compact made by any States which contain any portion of the national wild and scenic rivers systems" (emphasis added).

Comments

Regional Director, National Park Service

Page 2

- 2 Your recent release pertaining to this proposal points out that the Park Service and several other agencies of the federal government, as well as the Colorado and Utah Departments of Natural Resources have been involved in the initial studies. We believe that the people of Wyoming have a very strong, legitimate interest in the proposal as well. We respectfully suggest, therefore, that this State be adequately represented at any future conclaves where our resources are being discussed. It is extremely significant, we believe, that not a single copy of the study report was made available for inspection or review at any function in the State of Wyoming, where the stake is the greatest. I would appreciate receiving your comment concerning this point.

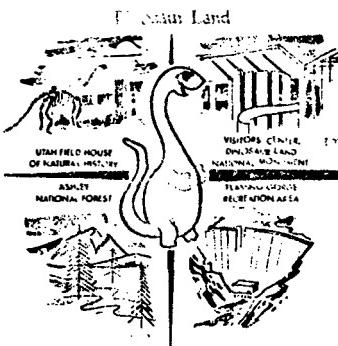
Very truly yours,

Thomas E. Kilty

Copies:

Members, Wyoming Congressional Delegation
Honorable Ed Herschler, Governor

Responses

- 2 During the review period, we sent copies of the Draft Report and EIS to the Governor's office and to the Bureau of Reclamation for distribution in Wyoming. But while these copies were made available for review, they were insufficient in number and placement, given the strength of the response we have received from Wyoming reviewers. The National Park Service has met with a state representative designated by Governor Herschler to assure that Wyoming's concerns are identified in the final report and statement.



Comments

Responses

120 EAST MAIN, VERNAL, UTAH 84078, (801) 789-1352

September 14, 1979

Mr. James B. Thompson, Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
Denver Service Center
Denver, CO

Dear Mr. Thompson:

RE: Draft Wild & Scenic River Study
and
Draft Environmental Statement
Green & Yampa Rivers

L74

The Vernal Area Chamber of Commerce has reviewed the Draft Wild & Scenic River Study of the Green and Yampa Rivers, and submits the following statement for your consideration:

1) Both the Green and Yampa Rivers flow through an area of Northeastern Utah and Northwestern Colorado, an area containing vast deposits of energy resources, which our nation critically needs. For this reason, we have serious concerns about placing further restrictions on the future development of these resources.

2) Although we are in full support of the use of these rivers for rafting, we are apprehensive about the designation of "free flows". The minimum flow recommended below Flaming Gorge Dam would hamper the fluctuations necessary for peak power demands. Free flow on the Yampa would rule out any future water development upstream from Dinosaur National Monument, which may, in the near future, be desirable and needed for development of the natural resources in that area, as well as irrigation for crops.

2 3) We have other concerns about the proposal's restrictions on access roads, both for industry and recreation, and stock watering.

4) The Chamber has observed the management of these rivers and adjacent lands by the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Utah Wildlife Resources, Colorado Fish and Game

1 Our draft report determined that (1) hydropower projects might be modified or eliminated by the proposal, (2) these projects would probably be affected first by the Endangered Species Act, rather than the proposal, (3) production of the maximum amount of coal projected by the BLM in the Northwest Colorado Coal EIS would not be affected by the proposal, and (4) oil shale development would be served by the adjacent White River, rather than the distant Yampa. We concluded that designation of the Yampa may limit but will probably not eliminate upstream water development, and that the impacts on mineral energy development will probably be minimal. The four conclusions referred to above have not substantially changed in the Final Report; however, we have clarified the point that the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and the Endangered Species Act will function independently of each other.

2 We know of no industry in or near the proposal area that would be affected by the restrictions on new access development implied by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The management agencies are of the opinion that access for present and expected future recreation use is adequate, except in Browns Park, where improvements are planned. Present provisions for stock watering are adequate, according to the managing agencies, and no increases in grazing are planned.

Comments

Responses

Department, and others, and feels very strongly that there are adequate, if not excessive, regulations to insure the maintenance of these rivers without degradation or adverse environmental effects. And we further feel that the agencies involved in this management are doing a satisfactory job in this respect.

The Vernal Area Chamber of Commerce, therefore, feels there is no need to include these rivers in a Wild & Scenic Designation. We strongly oppose the proposal.

Respectfully,



Mr. Dwight L. Wetenkamp
Executive Vice President

sas

CC: Utah Governor, Scott Matheson
Colorado Governor, Richard D. Lamm
U.S. Senator, Jake Garn
U.S. Senator, Orrin Hatch
U.S. Representative, Gunn McKay
U.S. Representative, Dan Marriott
Utah Department of Natural Resources
Colorado Water Conservation District
Utah Department of Water Resources
Colorado Department of Natural Resources

Comments

Craig, Colorado
September 21, 1979

Responses

Regional Director
National Park Service
Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir:

I am personally familiar with the area covered in the report: "draft wild and scenic river study (Green and Yampa Rivers), June, 1979, Colorado/Utah." Nothing in this report convinces me there is any reason to include any part of the Yampa River in the Wild and Scenic Rivers category.

Wildlife, fish and vegetation are already protected by laws regarding national monuments, hunting, and endangered species.

- 1 There is no record of spawning squawfish in the Yampa (p. 143 of above mentioned report). Also, I would be interested in
- 2 knowing the location of a "commercial fishery" mentioned on p. 143. The report mentions reproduction of the humpback chub
- 3 and the Colorado River squawfish has declined since the 1960's, so it is doubtful wild or controlled rivers is a governing factor.

Water quality will not be improved by the inclusion of the Yampa in the Wild River classification. Presently, runoff from feed lots, municipal waste and non-point source of pollution are adequately controlled by existing laws and bureaus. Various salts found in the water from natural sources--springs, shales, etc.--will not be affected by a Wild River designation.

Since the acreage of the area covered in this report already is protected in the following manner: 3.98% - State of Utah, 6.52% - U. S. Dept. of Agriculture (Forest Service), and 83.54% - Dept. of Interior (BIA, Fish and Wildlife, National Park Service) [p. 193], I see no reason to designate this area

- 1 If you will re-examine page 143 of the draft report (as well as other report references), you will see that we do not claim squawfish spawn in the Yampa. Seethaler, McAda, and Wydowsky (1976) report "several suspected spent females were collected in the Yampa between Cross Mountain and the confluence of the Little Snake River. . . ."
- 2 See response #8 to Glenn Miller.
- 3 Summarizing previous research, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (1977) stated causes of the decline of the endemic fishes. Among those causes were the effects of impoundments.

Comments

Responses

p. 2
Reg. Dir.
Nat'l. Pk. Serv.
Homer Winder

in the Wild and Scenic Rivers classification. Since 88.54% of this area is already under the Dept. of Interior, and since the Wild and Scenic Rivers is administered by the Dept. of Interior, such a designation for the Yampa River would not only seem unnecessary, but wasteful. We surely do not need another federal government bureau in Moffat County.

I request that this letter be made a part of the official record.

Yours truly,

Homer Winder
Homer Winder
P. O. Box 276
Craig, Colo. 81625

HW:ti

444

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC AND FROM
ORGANIZATIONS WHICH DID NOT APPEAR
TO REQUIRE RESPONSES**

Martin V. Albert, M.D.

P.O. Box 59
Ivy, Virginia 22945
(804) 823-5286

Sept 27 1979

Dear Sir:

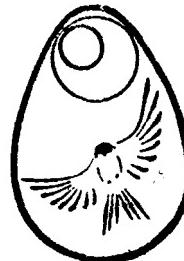
I wish to state my support for your proposal to classify 91 miles of the Green and 47 miles of the Yampa as National Wild and Scenic Rivers.

I would urge you to include as "Scenic" the 32 mile segment of the Green from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore.

I strongly oppose any dams that would destroy these Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Please enter my letter as part of the official record.

Sincerely
Martin Albert



Aspen Center for Environmental Studies

September 25, 1979

National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Co 80225

Dear Sirs:

The Aspen Center for Environmental Studies operates as a non-profit Environmental Education Center and Wildlife Sanctuary. Protection of Wild life Habitat is a major concern of the staff and the organization as a whole.

We are writing to formally express our support for the NPS proposal to classify 91 miles of the Green and 47 miles of the Yampa as a National Wild and Scenic River. The river basins are winter habitat for the bald eagle; in addition the sighting of two peregrine falcons in 1975 demands protection of the habitat of both species of endangered birds.

The Green River in Utah above Dinosaur National Monument is rated CLASS I fishery. Water quality is excellent and should be preserved. The Yampa supports two endangered fish, the humpback chub and the Colorado squawfish. Designation of the two sections as wild should protect native fisheries. We feel that the 32 miles segment of the Green from Indian crossing to the Gates of Lodore should be classified as "scenic" rather than "recreational" to provide better protection of the river and wildlife resources.

We strongly oppose any dams proposed for the Green and Yampa basins that would adversely affect the quality of the proposed wild sections. Specifically, we oppose the Juniper-Cross Mountain, Sheeporn and Oak Creek Projects that would alter streamflows and have a negative effect on endangered fish species.

Please include our letter in the official record on review of the Yampa-Green Proposal.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Susan G. Foster, P. Foster
Directors

P.O. Box 8777 • Aspen, Colorado 81611 • Phone 303 925-5756

Agnes P. Baker
2226 Ivanhoe Drive
Security, Colorado
80911

September 9, 1979

Dear Reagional Director;

I am in favor tp support the Park Service proposal for the 91 miles of the Green and 47 miles of the Yampa National Wild and Scenic Rivers. We have to keep them as Nature has and had them; too much is getting away from us,--'going down the river one might say.'No dams or recreation like boats and etc.

The 32 mile segnate of the Green River from Indain Crossing to the Gates of Iodore has been mented before as a 'SCENIC' river; it ought to be. Too much is getting away for people making money on these things.

Remember,-some THINGS CAN NOT BE-PLACED...

Please make my letter part of the official record.

447
Thank You;

Agnes P. Baker

P.S.--Your a National Park Service,--I would like the wolves back in the National Parks and wherever possible. They're not as bad as people think. Or any worse than some others, where as some do more and are back in the Parks.

September 21, 1979

Mr. Don Bock
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80220

Dear Mr. Bock:

I am writing in regards to the proposal to include part of the Yampa and Green Rivers in Colorado and Utah as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

It is quite evident to me that this as well as the whole National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act Public Law 90-542 is a mistake.

This country can, and needs to use all its natural resources. This should be done by the multiple use concept, with a good plan of conservation.

A law that gives one person or even a subject few the power to ban the use of these natural resources which affect the total well being of the economic stability of our country is absurd to say the least.

With almost all of the land in the area in question being managed by a Government Agency now, what is the reason for this? The answer is quite simple. It would allow those who are designated the authority to control resources beyond their present jurisdiction.

This is my reason for opposing this. I request this letter with my comments be included as a part of this study.

Sincerely,
S.V. Beckett
S. V. Beckett

cc: Senator Gary Hart
Senator William Armstrong
Representative James Johnson
Representative Ken Kramer
Moffat County Commissioners

S. V. Beckett
311, Mainey Street
Craig, Colorado 81625

Regional Director,
National Park Service
Box 25287
Denver, Colorado, 80225

January 12, 1980

Dear Sir: I am concerned about the successful implementation of your proposal to classify parts of the Yampa and Green Rivers as "National Wild & Scenic Rivers." I wish very much to see designated the full 91 miles of the Green River, and the full 47 miles of the Yampa as "Wild & Scenic," officially.

Since I have read your proposal, and have occasioned to visit some of the sections of the Green River which are recommended for preservation, I ask that my letter be made part of your permanent record on the subject.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
T. Benintendi

TIMOTHY BENINTENDI
1910 FENTON ST. #3
LAKWOOD, COLO. 80214

448

Regional Director
National Park Service
Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

September 7, 1979

To the Regional Director:

I am delighted that you have chosen to classify portions of the Green and Yampa Rivers as National Wild and Scenic Rivers. I am especially familiar with the Green River from having camped several times along the shore, and know that it eminently qualifies. Such rivers and riparian habitat are at an increasing premium, and I would hope that any water projects would be excluded.

I would like this letter entered in your hearing record.

Sincerely,
Bruce Berger
Bruce Berger
Box 432
Aspen, Colorado 81611

Regional Director
National Park Service
Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

January 15, 1980

To the Regional Director:

I have not yet run the Green or Yampa Rivers, but do not want to see them destroyed or mutilated before I get the chance: flowing water through desert and semi-desert terrain is at an increasing premium. I urge your support of the Park Service proposal to classify 47 miles of the Yampa and 91 miles of the Green as National Wild and Scenic Rivers, and hope that the stretch of the Green between Indian Crossing and the Gates of Lodore will be classified "scenic" rather than "recreational."

I would like this letter included in the hearing record.

46

Sincerely,
Bruce Berger
Bruce Berger
7575 Ironwood
Paradise Valley, Ariz 85253

1158 East 2700 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116
Aug. 31, 1979

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Co

Dear Sir,

This letter is being written in support of the National Park Service proposal to increase the size of the Green and Yampa River Study Areas. I urge adoption of alternative 2 because it offers the greatest resource protection. Please enter this as a part of the record for the DEIS on the Green and Yampa Rivers. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Hutton

Oct. 16, 1979

Dear Sir,

Please send one copy of the proposed
River Management Plan for Dixiean National
Monument as described in the Oct. 3, 1979
Federal Register.

Thank you.

R. Alan Brown, Ph. D.
136 Sherbrooke Drive
Williamsville, N.Y. 14221

P.S. I wish the following statement to be made:
a part of the official record:

"The Green and Yampa River segments within
Dixiean National Monument should be given Wild
and Scenic River status according to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act
and be designated as components of the National Wild
and Scenic Rivers System. The required management
plan must protect the acid natural waters and
ensure adequate river flows in the Green River
(minimum b,500 cfs during drystone in May and June).

SEPTEMBER 22 1979

MAYBELL, COLORADO

page 2

Attention Mr. Don Brock
National Park Service and Congressmen from State of Colorado;

I am very much apposed to the changing of the Green River
and Yampa River to Wild and scenic River

The Green River is now under the jurisdiction of the Dinosaur
National Monument, The Browns Park Wild Life Refuge and the Park service
and the Bureau of Land Management. The fishing seasons are set. No
Boating, hunting or fishing is allowed until the goose and duck nesting
season is over

No protected fish are allowed to be taken. The wild and scenic
river act would split the Dinosaur National Monument on both sides
of the Green river

All the drainage of the Yampa river would be affected by
making the Yampa river a Wild and Scenic River.

It would curtail the development of the Juniper and Cross
Mountain dams.

It would help the environment for recreation fishing and
hunting to have Juniper and Cross Mountain dam built.

It would be much better for fish to have the flow of the
Yampa river regulated so it did not get so low during the summer months.

The endangered species of fish are already protected and
boating through Dinosaur National Monument is by permit only.

divide
The Wild and Scenic River act would ^{divide} Dinosaur National
Monument on the Yampa river.

I am not in favor of any more Government Agencies running the
Yampa and Green River

451
Thank You
L.C. Buffham and
taxpayers on Yampa River

L.C. Buffham
Box 93, Maybell,
Colo. 81640

January 30, 1980

Regional Director
National Park Service
PO Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

Dear friends:

I am writing to thank you for your support and recommendation of classification of portions of the Green and Yampa Rivers as Wild and Scenic.

I am a kayaker and fisher and value these exquisite rivers for their in-stream values. With the distressing precedents of Colorado water law it is increasingly difficult to protect the water flowing in our rivers from diversion and dams. Especially with pressure from massive development of oil shale in these river basins, care must be taken to preserve the natural in-stream values of these waters. Designation as National Wild and Scenic Rivers is a logical and responsible way to do so.

Unfortunately, the future generations who will benefit most from our actions cannot write letters or compete economically to save these rivers. It is up to us. Once the Yampa is dammed it can never be restored.

Specifically, I support the proposal to classify 91 miles of the Green and 47 miles of the Yampa as National Wild and Scenic Rivers. I hope that the segment of the Green from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore can be designated "scenic" as well. I come to Colorado from Oregon where I have seen both state and national wild and scenic rivers designations work well for all parties who care about the rivers. I also support you in your opposition to the numerous dam projects on the Yampa.

Cordially,

DeAnne

DeAnne Butterfield
929 Forest
Boulder, CO 80302

3131 Sunrise Rd.
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001
November 12, 1979

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Re: Green-Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers Study

Dear Sir:

As an ordinary citizen, I am concerned about the Green-Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers Study because the city of Cheyenne has been developing its water supply through use of its water rights in this area. Cheyenne is a fast growing city and it is imperative that its water supply be developed without additional costs and delays.

This development has been active since 1961 and I would urge that no river use planning of any kind should hinder the expansion of Cheyenne's future water supply.

Please give these conditions your careful consideration.

Sincerely,

Lena M Chamberlain
Mrs. Lena M. Chamberlain



WESTERN RESERVE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

October 29, 1979

Mr. Glen T. Bean
Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service
655 Parfet Street
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

Dear Mr. Bean:

Along with many others I share a great concern that massive numbers of people are going to be coming to Western Colorado to develop our much needed resources. This of course is healthy and will spur the economy, however proper planning is required so that these people will be accepted into our communities without disruption of our communities.

One of the things mandatory to this kind of growth is proper development of our resources and that can only happen with proper development and extension of utilities.

In the Craig area there is a proposed Juniper-Cross Mountain Hydro-electric Project. This type of project will not only benefit the Western part of Colorado through economic development but will provide water storage and could provide important multi-faceted use.

A couple of meetings recently held in the Craig area appear to be nothing but window dressing as reports coming from those meetings indicate little if any attention was paid to local input.

I encourage your support of the Juniper-Cross Mountain Hydro-electric Project and others of this nature and hope you might be able to use your influence to insure that truly local input is recognized and accepted in development of these projects.

Sincerely,

J. King Clemons

CC: Dale Hollingsworth - Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce
John Vanderhoof - Club 20
Roland Fisher - Colorado River Water Conservation District
Congressman Jim Johnson, Gary Hart, Pat Schroeder and William Armstrong
Home Office • 28th & North Ave • P.O. Box 609 • Grand Junction, Colorado 81501 • Ph X3/242-6291



GROUPS: ASPEN • BOULDER • BOULDER JUNIOR • DENVER • DENVER JUNIOR • EL PUEBLO • FORT COLLINS
LONGS PEAK • PIKES PEAK • SAN JUAN • WESTERN SLOPE

TELEPHONE
922-8315

OFFICE HOURS MONDAY THRU FRIDAY 9 A.M. TO 2 P.M. AND TUESDAY AND THURSDAY EVENINGS 7 TO 9 P.M.

2530 W. Alameda Ave.
DENVER, COLORADO 80219

September 9, 1979

Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

To the Director:

The Colorado Mountain Club wishes to comment on the proposed inclusion of the Green and Yampa Rivers in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

First of all, many of our 6,000 members statewide have been on the Green and Yampa Rivers on club-sponsored or on individually-organized raft trips, so we are very familiar with the outstanding scenic, recreational, geologic, and wildlife values of these rivers. We firmly oppose the water and power projects which presently threaten these rivers - particularly the Juniper-Cross Mountain, Oak Creek, and Sheeporn projects. To protect the outstanding natural values of these rivers we strongly support the National Park Service proposal to add 91 miles of the Green River in Colorado and Utah, and 47 miles of the Yampa River in Colorado to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

In studying the classifications for each segment of the rivers, however, we urge the National Park Service to classify the 32 mile segment of the Green River from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore as scenic instead of recreational. This segment's values meet the requirements of a scenic designation and the 32 miles should have the additional protection of its present environment under a scenic designation.

Please include these comments in your record of public response to the Green and Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers Study. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Fred Ruckhaus, President
Colorado Mountain Club

Colorado First

Soil Conservation District

CRAIG, COLORADO 81625

September 12, 1979

Regional Director, Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
Post Office Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

The board of supervisors and board of appeals of Colorado First Soil Conservation District has reviewed the draft wild and scenic river study environmental statement. Here are our comments.

The Colorado First Soil Conservation District covers 2,971,246 acres of Northwest Colorado and includes parts of Garfield, Rio Blanco, Routt and Moffat counties. The Colorado First SCD is the result of the consolidation of the Moffat and Yampa Soil Conservation Districts on March 31, 1972. The Yampa District was founded in 1947 and the Moffat District in 1938. You can see that the District has been active in soil and water related matters for sometime. The district was founded to help all people use area resources within the capabilities of the soil. We're still doing that today and hope to continue the same job in the future.

45 We feel that we are the area's first ecological organization, from the standpoint we try to work everything within nature's realm. We sincerely believe in wisely harnessing what we have and using it wisely for the good of mankind. That is why the wild and scenic river designation on the Yampa and Green rivers bothers us. Designating these rivers as wild and scenic could adversely affect the Juniper and Cross Mountain dam projects.

We feel that the dams are a good deal because water will increase the productivity of our land, reduce salt and sediment loads to the Colorado river and provide needed recreation facilities for a growing area.

The Board feels that rivers are already managed as if they are under the National Wild and Scenic River System. Assigning a wild and scenic designation to the rivers will not make them anymore aesthetically pleasing, pristine, or rich in historic value; we do feel it will impose enough regulations to tie up natural resources that can be used better than they are now.

Colorado First

Soil Conservation District

CRAIG, COLORADO 81625

-2-

Regional Director, Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
Denver, Colorado 80225

The controversy that is brewing about the Colorado squaw fish is really not as serious as some would like to think. Since the squaw fish preys on game fish, game and fish departments have attempted to control it by introducing the channel catfish. Obviously, they haven't eradicated the minnow when they have tried. Furthermore, modern fish biology techniques can and will propagate this fish for future generations if they have to. Historically speaking, we feel the minnow is hardy enough to still be an endemic species when we're gone.

Thank you for this opportunity to air our opinions and for your time.

Sincerely,

Leon Fedinec, president
Colorado First Soil Conservation District

LP:cte



CONSERVATION CALL
3942 Hughes Court
San Diego, Ca. 92115

Telephone: (714) 583-8486

13 January 1980

Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

Dear Sir:

This regional conservation organization strongly endorses the NPS proposal to classify ninety-one miles of the Green and Forty-seven miles of the Yampa rivers as National Wild and Scenic Rivers. Several of our members have enjoyed river trips on both these grand streams-we personally were on the first Sierra Club raft trip down the Green in 1954. All of us cherish the memories we have of richly rewarding wilderness experiences.

We do urge that the thirty-two mile segment of the Green stretching from Indian Crossing to the magnificent Gates of Lodore be made Scenic rather than Recreational-it rates the former designation!

There should not be any dams that would affect either of the rivers.

Please make this statement part of the hearing record.

Sincerely,
Wilma & Roscoe Poland
Wilma Poland, President
Roscoe Poland, Director

AS WE SAVE THE NATURAL WORLD, WE ALSO SAVE OURSELVES

45

Dear Sirs:

sun 1-13 :c

It has been brought to my attention that there is some question as to the future of the Yampa + Green river systems. I strongly urge that they both remain Natural "Wild + Scenic River Systems". The country in concern is a very fragile and special Area! I personally would hate to see the area damaged for any reason.

Specifically: That 91 miles of the Green River and 47 miles of the Yampa River be included as "Wild + Scenic" Rivers. Also that the 32 miles of the Green River from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore be designated Scenic rather than Recreational.

Please include my letter in your official record.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Croll

Box 1730
Steamboat Springs,
Colorado 80477

Jun 12, 1982

Dear Sir;

It is my understanding that the National Park Service has proposed Wild and Scenic River status for the Green and Yampa Rivers in and near Dinosaur National Monument. I am very much in favor of this designation and support the Park Service position. I am concerned, however, that various proposed water impoundments on the Yampa River may reduce the "wild" character of the Yampa downstream from the ~~the~~ dam so I would urge the Park Service to oppose such projects. There are many other reasons for opposing dams on the Yampa, and your opposition would certainly add value to those of us in Colorado.

who want to prevent the Colorado River Basin from becoming a series of impoundments connected by canals! I would also like to encourage you to support "scenic" rather than "recreational" status for the Green River from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore.

Thank you kindly for considering these opinions. I would this letter entered into the public comment record of the Wild and Scenic River designation procedure.

Sincerely,

Nick Cunningham
22145 W. Nevada Dr. #201
La Juniper, CO 80528

Don Bock
National PARK Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colo. 80205

Dear Mr. Bock,

Please include this letter into the
DRAFT Wild AND Scenic River Study-Draft
ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT.

LSA
We consider our statement to be as important
AS your study team's because we have worked
AND cared for the land & waters in the
Browns Park & Green River areas since 1885—
in the Agriculture industry. Because of
the Agriculture industry Browns Park has retained
the Wild and Scenic Values without any government
studies. There is no need to control the
Rivers. We need Multiple use of the whole
Northwest Colorado. Land and Rivers.

We need NO newly created wild rivers
OR wilderness areas.

Anytime the land and water is put under
wild, scenic or wilderness there is a definite
threat to the Agriculture industry.

Thank you,
Polly Dickinson
Moy, Boi Livestock Company

Sept. 25, 1979
CRAIG, Colo. 81625

Polly Dickinson
780 Green St
Craig, Colorado 81625

Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

September 18, 1979

Dear Sir,
We the undersigned strongly support the Park Service proposal to
classify 91 miles of the Green River and 47 miles of the Yampa River
as National Wild and Scenic Rivers. We urge that the 32 miles of the
Green River from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore be designated
as "acenic", for which it qualifies, instead of "recreational". We
oppose any dams that would adversely affect the proposed Green and Yampa
Wild and Scenic Rivers. We ask that this letter be made part of the
official record.
Yours Sincerely,

Katherine Dings - 350 Gaylord Street
Denver, Colorado

Alan Gepenhardt 1058 Harrison Denver 80206

Bruce Peterson 1170 S. Filgate Dr., Denver
August Seaby 720 Grant, Louisville, CO - 80027
Phil G. Morgan 1857 N. 75th Boulder, CO

John Davis 7240 Roaring Springs Rd., Ft. Collins, CO 80817

Ruth Linsenang 1066 Harrison Denver 80206

LOPEZ
1054 HARRISON ST
DENVER
CO 80006

487 11th Ave.
Salt Lake City, UT 84103

Regional Director
National Park Service
P. O. Box 25207
Denver Colorado

Dear Sir:

I would like to voice my strong endorsement of the National Park Service proposal to classify 91 miles of the Green and 47 miles of the Yampa Rivers as National Wild and Scenic Rivers. Last spring I traveled to Dinosaur National Monument and some of the surrounding areas and I believe that the stretch of the Green river from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore should also be classified as scenic rather than recreational.

I understand that a number of water projects have been proposed that would undoubtedly effect the flow of these two rivers--I definitely am opposed to these. I also would like to ask that this letter be made part of the official record.

Box 641
Craig, Colorado 81625
September 20, 1979

Regional Director
National Park Service
P. O. Box 25207
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir:

The Draft Environmental Statement regarding designation of the Green and Yampa Rivers as wild and scenic says, "Water resource developments within the two river proposal areas and possibly upstream from the Yampa study segment will be prohibited." (Page 198)

I think it is more sensible to store water for the increasing population of Craig than it is to waste water so a limited number of white-water boaters can have fun. I am against designating the Yampa River as a wild and scenic river.

Please make this letter a part of the official record.

Yours truly,

R. J. Drule
R. J. Drule

458

Thank you:

Ronald L. Doshier
Ronald L. Doshier

Box 641
Craig, Colorado 81625
September 20, 1979

Regional Director
National Park Service
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir:

One of the reasons given for the need for a Wild and Scenic Rivers designation of the Green and Yampa Rivers is that "it will add another layer of legal protection for the fish and wildlife of the corridor."

If the "layer of legal protection" we now have is not sufficient, neither will another layer be. Strengthen the present "layer" rather than add another "layer". Do not pile one insufficient "layer" on another insufficient "layer".

A designation of Wild and Scenic for the Green and Yampa Rivers is not needed for protection of fish and wildlife.

I request that this letter be made part of the official record.

Yours truly,

Mary E. Drole
Mary E. Drole

459

Craig, Colo
Sept 22, 1979
1295 Crest Drive
Craig, Colo. 81625

Mrs. Don Bork
Team Leader
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colo. 80225

Dear Mrs. Bork,

I am definitely opposed to conclusions of the Draft Wild and Scenic River Study. In the study on page 193 it is that 13% of the river is owned by private individuals. That means most of the area is already controlled by government.

I am sure I am not alone in my feeling too much government control of our life and land. I have so written many times to our State and Federal Representatives. We have always been told the Government is the people, but I know it is not true for all the people. A few with the money are the ones who control.

My family have always protected, kept clean and appreciated the woods and wildlife and we resent many government decisions! If someone doesn't take a hint we will soon not be able to live with all the environmentalists requests.

I request that this letter be made a part of the Draft Wild and Scenic River Study, Draft Environmental Statement of the Green and Yampa Rivers.

Sincerely,
Mrs Leo Dunn

Jan 17, 1980

Regional Director
National Park Service

Dear Sir,

This letter is to inform you that we support your proposal to classify 91 miles of the Green River and 47 miles of the Yampa River as National Wild and Scenic Rivers. We would also like to urge you to reclassify the 32 mile segment from Indian Crossing to Gates of Lodore from "recreational" to "scenic". Please include this latter in the permanent record.

Sincerely,

Franklin D. Finance
Eakin
7931 Appleblossom Ln
Westminster, CO 80235

Mon, Jan 14, 79
4pm Ellin Cabin
Box 4985
Broad Avenue St.
Craig, Colo. 81625

National Park Service,

In writing to you
my opinion on the status
of the Yampa river &
then river. These 2 rivers
through Colorado had
Mon. should definitely have
a wild & scenic status.

Also the stream from Indian
Canyon to the State of Colorado
should be classified as
scenic. Let's save these
rivers while we have a
chance. OVER. Thank You! Ellin Eskow

P.S. I'm also opposed to
any dams on these rivers.
Especially the proposed
Juniper Springs & Cross Mt.
Dams. Please make this
letter part of the official
record.

Arrow insurance management

November 2, 1979

Mr. Glen T. Bean
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
NPS
Box 25287
Denver, Co. 80225

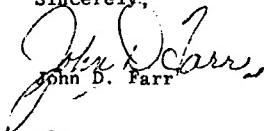
Howdy Mr. Bean:

I have been on foot and in a jeep in Dinosaur Monument. I have floated the Yampa through the park. I know the area. I can see no reason that the Juniper - Cross Mountain project would in any way affect Dinosaur Monument.

Western Colorado needs the Juniper - Cross Mountain project. The recreational benefits as well as economic benefits are a major factor in this region. Actually I feel the development of the JC project will help NPS in providing greater interest and visitation in the Dinosaur National Monument.

462 I am a life long resident of Colorado. If we don't store and conserve water in obvious natural places like Juniper - Cross, we'll never effectively handle the responsibilities that are imposed at every governmental level by the needs of recreation, energy or agriculture.

Sincerely,


John D. Farr

mlc

P.O. Box 250 Frisco, Colorado 80443



(303) 668-3500

The Insurance People

Dawnette Fix
Vernon Route
Wray, Co.
80752

To whom it may concern,
I think we should save the
Yampa and the Green River because
they are beautiful to look at and
it would be a waste to ruin
the river and the land. If you
put dams in the river it could
kill the fish and even the plants
the plants the fish feed on.

I support the Park Service
purposely to classify 91 miles of
the Green River and the 47 miles
of the Yampa River as National
and Wild scenic rivers.

Please make this letter part of
the official record.
Thank you for reading my letter
and for your time.

Note: This letter is representative
of a group of 31 letters received
from students in Wray, Colorado.
All or most of these letters
apparently resulted from a
biology class project.

Sincerely yours,
Dawnette Fix

Preparers of this document,
National Park Service

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

124 SPEAR SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA 94105

(415) 495-4770

Teal, Utah

The Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25267
Denver, Colo. 80225

Dear Sir:

Friends of the Earth would like to express our support for the provisions outlined in the draft Wild and Scenic River Study-draft Environmental Statement for the Green and Yampa Rivers in Colorado and Utah.

Furthermore, we would like to compliment the members of the study team who prepared the document for their excellent work.

Regarding any specific comments on the recommendations outlined in the plan, we support the views outlined by Randy Frank, for the River Rights Action Committee, of the American Canoe Association.

554 Padley St.,
Salt Lake City,
Utah 84106

August 20, 1979

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P. O. Box 25267
Denver, Co. 80225

Dear Sir:

Having had a three day boat trip on the Yampa in the area of the proposed study, we are very much impressed with the scendery and boating, and we support any effort to protect it.

We, therefore, urge that Alternative 2 be adopted as the best plan for protecting this area in the National Wild and Scenic River System.

Respectfully,

Harold L. Gibbs
Harold L. Gibbs

Maude N. Gibbs
Maude N. Gibbs

Sincerely,

Gordon Anderson
Gordon Anderson
Colorado Plateau Representative
Friends of the Earth
P.O. Box 226
Teal, Utah 84532
(435) 521-2052

Glenwood Springs, Colorado
September 9, 1979

November 13, 1979

The Regional Director
National Park Service
P. O. Box 25287
Denver Colorado 80225

Dear Sir:

I support the Park Service in trying classify 91 miles of the Green and 47 miles of the Yampa as National Wild and Scenic Rivers. The 32 miles of the Green from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore be designated as "scenic," instead of "recreational".

Please oppose any dams that would affect the proposed Green and Yampa Wild And Scenic Rivers.

The Bureau of Reclamation and the Colorado River Water Conservation District have many dams planned for the river system in North-West Colorado, such as the Upper Yampa Project, that will include such dams as the Bear, a few miles up stream from the town of Yampa, Colorado, also the Minkley and Yamcolo reservoirs. The Lower Yampa will include the Rampa, California Park, Juniper-Cross Mountain and Jubb Creek dams and reservoirs.

The Savory-Pothook, on the Little Snake, (tributary to the Yampa) will benefit only a few sheep and cattle ranchers, plus creating another storage basin so more Western Slope Water can be pumped back over the Continental Divide to Cheyenne, and more water lost to the Eastern Slope.

The Bureau of Reclamation and The Army Corp of Engineers, if left to their own plans will have every valley and pot-hole in the United States dammed or diverted some where else. I would like this letter to go in the official record.

Sincerely,

Scott D. Gorsuch
Scott D. Gorsuch

Scott D. (Jack) Gorsuch
1113 Red Mt. Drive
Glenwood Springs, Colo. 81601

Mr. Glen T. Bean, Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service
655 Parfet Street
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

Dear Sir

The Gunnison County Stockgrowers support the building of the Juniper-Cross Mountain Hydro-electric dam west of Craig, Colorado.

This project would afford necessary water storage and power production, as well as recreational facilities. All of these would enhance the economic stability of the immediate area and the state of Colorado greatly, with no expenditure of any Federal Funds, as this project is to be built without Federal monies.

We also oppose the inclusion of the Yampa River in the designation of Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours Very Truly,

Charles R. Irby Jr., P.D.E.
Charles R. Irby, President
Gunnison County Stockgrowers

Sept. 22, 1979

Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colo. 80225

Dear Sir: Having done float trips on the Yampa and Green with the old timers in the early 50's, we strongly support the Park Service proposal to make 47 miles of the Yampa, and 91 miles of the Green, Wild & Scenic Rivers. We would hate to see more dams go in, that would change the flavor; we remember Vermillion Canyon before Flaming Gorge Dam. And the 32 miles of the Green from Indian Crossing to the gates of Kodore should receive the "scenic" rating, instead of "recreational".

465
There are two wonderful rivers —
may they remain so!

Yours truly,
Mr. & Mrs. Guy J. Mallum
410 S. Aspen Street
Aspen, Colorado 81611

Sept. 6, 1979

Dear Sir,
I would like this letter to be made part of any official record regarding designation of portions of the Green and Yampa Rivers as National Wild and Scenic Rivers. I support classification of 91 miles of the Green and 47 miles of the Yampa as part of the system. The view of the 2 rivers from Hagerman is, I think, the most impressive scene in Northwestern Colorado. It uses the strongest possible designation ("wild" inside the monument and "scenic" outside) with the hope that this would be sufficient to prevent any new water projects that would further affect the flow of water in Dinosaur National Monument. Hopefully, some additional protection of the monument, respectively,

Tim Hoffron

466

Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

Dear Sir:

Please include this letter as part of the official record on the legislation currently under consideration which would include portions of the Green and Yampa Rivers under the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

I strongly support the Park Service proposal released on July 30 which urges classification of 91 miles of the Green and 47 miles of the Yampa as "national wild and scenic rivers". In addition, I would like to voice my strong opposition to the following dam projects: Jiper-Creek Mtn., Sheephorn, Box Creek, Tenry-Pothole and Yampa. I also feel the proposed alteration to Flaming Gorge Dam would be very detrimental to river running on the Green & Yampa. Support it also.

Thank you for consideration of my opinion.

Very truly yours,
Mrs. Shirley Hermon

935 Willowie Dr.
Suite: C-50303
Sept. 19, 1979

JEANNE HIBAN
REDCLIFF, COLO. 81649

DEAR SIR;

This letter is written in strong support of the Park Service proposal to classify 98 miles of the Green River and 47 miles of the Yampa River as National Wild and Scenic Rivers. Obviously, then I am opposed to any dams which would adversely affect the proposed Green + Yampa Wild & Scenic Rivers.

I would also like to encourage you to designate the 22 mile segment of the Green River from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Hidde as "Scenic," for which it qualifies, instead of "Recreational." Please make these comments part of the official record. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,
Jeanne Hibon

PIETER HONDIUS
REAL ESTATE
80 MADISON STREET, SUITE 212
DENVER COLORADO 80206

TELEPHONE
321-7168

September 5, 1979

Regional Director, National Park Service

P.O. Box 25287

Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir:

I wish to express my support for the proposal to designate the Green and Yampa rivers in Colorado's Yampa River as National Wild and Scenic Rivers.

I have written more for the fact that you are away impressed with the great fact that the Yampa River has in protecting natural values, wildlife, parks, parks, etc., etc. the face of greatly increased use. I feel that such a scenic designation will provide further protection for the incomparable natural streams.

Also, I support designating the entire stretch of the Green River from Hanging Flats to Gates of Lodore as "scenic." The Bois River does make all the protection that it can get.

I request that this letter be made part of the hearing record on the matter.

Very truly yours,

Peter Honduis

Responses

September 25

Regional Director
Nat'l. Park Service
607 Marfat St.
Denver, Co. 80225

Dear Director:

I was very glad to learn that the period for public comment on the proposal to incorporate 91 miles of the Green River and 47 miles of the Yampa River was extended until October 1, for I had very much wished to write you about it and had feared that I was too late.

I have just come back with my family from a weekend in parts of the region under study and I feel very strongly that it would be in the permanent national interest for all of us now, and all the generations to come, if these river regions could be "saved" by becoming part of the National Wild and Scenic River System. Even the very thought of a dam on the Yampa sometime in the future appals me, and I am sure that these lovely stretches of water with their abundance of wildlife, birds and fish and unspoiled shoreline well deserve to be a part of this Scenic River System. In fact, I was amazed that none of our Colorado rivers had yet become a part of this System; I hope that we can set a precedent with these stretches of the Green and Yampa.

Thank you for entertaining public review and extending it. I just wish that more people were aware of their rights and obligations to write to you about such things.

Sincerely,
Nina Johnson
747 12th
Boulder, Co. 80302

11/7/79
Craig, Colo.
81625

Dear Sir,

I would like to see the
Yampa and the Green rivers
left on the Wild & Scenic Rivers.
First of all there are no rivers so
designated in Colorado. The Yampa
is a good rafting and fishing and
scenic river. The Green is
rated as a D, fishing river.
Energy conservation and development
of new clean and renewable
resources for energy are the key
to heat, lights and a scenic landscape.
These rivers need protection from
unnecessary dams etc. Sincerely,
Robert H. Jones
P.O. Box 518
Craig, Colorado 81625

468

Mr. Glen F. Bean, Regional Director
Rocky Mtn. Regional Office
National Park Service, 655 Parfet St.
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir,

We are trying to build a hydroelectric project just west of Craig. It would not be government financed. It would offer economic benefits and recreational use and the water storage and power production would benefit not only the entire western slope but the state as well.

As for the study of the B.L.M. of the area in the possible designation of wilderness area, there is a well-used road they term a "way" and an old copper mine--man made features. I am not particularly in favor of an wilderness area as I think all of our areas should be taken care of in the best possible manner. I also do not have much use for the B.L.M or their studies after the supposedly wild horse adoption farce.

As for the endangered species program, the Game and Fish service were trying to poison the same fish they are now trying to save. They used to call them "trash Fish". I live on the Yampa river and I catch squawfish there and also up Elk Head creek. I see no particular shortage of them and see no purpose in trying to save fish we can't eat.

The hydroelectric project would supply a lot of electricity with no pollution and I think we need the project very much.

Sincerely
Robert H. Jones

Robert H. Jones
Box 518
Craig, Colorado 81625

655 Lincoln St.
Denver, Colorado 80265
September 7, 1971

Regional Director
National Park Service

P.O. Box 25387
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir;

I am writing because of my interest in
free, wild, protected rivers. I strongly support the
Park Service proposal to classify 41 miles of
the Gunnison and 47 miles of the Yampa as National
Wild & Scenic Rivers, with the 32 mile segment
of the Gunnison under consideration
to be designated as "scenic".
I have kayaked several western rivers
and am opposed to the construction of dams
that would adversely affect their free flowing
status.

Annually
Kathleen A. Johnson

P.O. Box 413
Craig, CO, 81625
September 19, 1979

Mr. Don Bock
National Park Service
Denver Service Center
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO, 80225

Dear Mr. Bock:

Enclosed are the combined comments of the Juniper Water Conservancy District; Great Northern Water Conservancy District; and the Northwest Water Council.

We request that these comments be a part of the combined drafts of the Wild and Scenic River Study and Environmental Statement for the Green and Yampa Rivers. The comments enclosed include the following:

Segment A, Alternative A-1 and A-2
" B, " B-1 " B-2
" C, " C-1 and C-2
" D, " D-1 " D-2

These comments are being submitted after the September 10, 1979 deadline since the draft statements were not received in Craig for our review until September 8, 1979. Also attached is a copy of a letter from Moffat County Commissioner Albert Camilletti, advising of an extension of time granted Moffat County citizens in submitting comments to the statements.

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Yours very truly,

Tony Angelo, President
Juniper/Great Northern Water
Conservation Districts

Bill Jordan
Northwest Water Council

Bob Jones
Great Northern Water
Conservation District

Bob Jones
Neal McKinstry
Great Northern Water
Conservation District

SEGMENT A
The Green River from just below Flaming Gorge Dam downstream to the BLM boatramp at Indian Crossing.

ALTERNATIVE A-1

TAKE NO ACTION

I favor no action alternative as this is cattle country and private lands, and has been, and is, well protected very efficiently by the U.S. Forest Service. We cannot see where the National Wild and Scenic Management could justify the extra waste of tax dollars by any stretch of the imagination. There have been no costs developed. There have been hundreds of thousands of dollars wasted on previous studies since 1922. Why waste more tax dollars? This type of study smacks of socialism since the mandate came from a Democratic controlled congress.

Acceptable? Why?

Not Acceptable? Why?

Suggested Modifications to Alternative A-1.

SEGMENT A

The Green River from just below Flaming Gorge Dam downstream to the BLM boatramp at Indian Crossing.

ALTERNATIVE A-2

DESIGNATE THIS SEGMENT OF THE GREEN RIVER AS A SCENIC RIVER AREA UNDER THE WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT.

Acceptable? Why?

471

Not Acceptable? Why?

No action is favored.

Suggested Modifications to Alternative A-2.

SEGMENT B

The Green River from the BLM boatramp at Indian Crossing downstream to the Gates of Lodore.

ALTERNATIVE B-1

TAKE NO ACTION.

Acceptable? Why?

I agree on the "no action" designation as it would be comparable to segment A-1. This is an outstandingly beautiful and remarkable segment, is an eye sight common to us and has been this way for centuries! The present three bureaus in cooperation with the State of Utah has done an outstanding job of enhancement and beautification, and certainly doesn't need to be burdened with political dictatorship. Here again, local and common people would have a choice for future water development outside the Monument. The National Park Monument laws guarantee protection of cultural, scenic, wildlife, recreational and historic values in the Monument. Why belittle the present bureaus and service efficiencies when your studies thus far leave out comparative costs.

Not Acceptable? Why?

The deep canyon country has protected this area for centuries and will for centuries to come which, after all, has been the most efficient. The National Park Service has done an outstanding job of protection and enhancement along with the cooperation of the other three bureaus.

Suggested Modifications to Alternative B-1.

SEGMENT A

The Green River from the BLM boatramp at Indian Crossing downstream to the Gates of Lodore.

ALTERNATIVE B-2

DESIGNATE THIS SEGMENT OF THE GREEN RIVER AS A RECREATIONAL RIVER AREA UNDER THE WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT.

Acceptable? Why?

Not Acceptable? Why?

Not acceptable as outlined in B-1.

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Suggested Modifications to Alternative B-2.

18

SEGMENT C

The Green River from the Gates of Lodore to Echo Park in Dinosaur National Monument in northwestern Colorado.

ALTERNATIVE C-1

TAKE NO ACTION.

Acceptable? Why?

Not Acceptable? Why?

We accept no action. This again, is deep canyon country, well protected by nature over the centuries. It would be compatible to A and B as has been proven by the greater accessibility to the elderly, more and safer guided tours by raft and boat for the more adventurous. That has all been possible by the highly efficient National Park Service with the excellent co-operation of the other three bureaus in complete harmony and compatibility. It also protects the probability of future upstream and downstream water development project by project, for the conservation of coal, production of hydro-power, irrigation, municipal, industrial, recreational, and a more even yearly stream flow and a step forward in the protection of the endangered species called man. It leaves the freedom of choice for the future. Again, my imagination, having seen tremendous governmental waste locally (Colorado) during the second World War, can I believe the Wild and Scenic Management would lower costs or increase efficiency.

Suggested Modifications to Alternative C-1.

19

SEGMENT C

The Green River from the Gates of Lodore to Echo Park in Dinosaur National Monument in northwestern Colorado.

ALTERNATIVE C-2

DESIGNATE THIS SEGMENT OF THE GREEN RIVER AS A WILD RIVER AREA UNDER THE WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT.

Acceptable? Why?

473

Not Acceptable? Why?

Not acceptable. The laws of the Wild and Scenic River Management would place the future under the dictates of a very small minority.

Suggested Modifications to Alternative C-2.

SEGMENT D

The Yampa River from the eastern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument to its confluence with the Green River.

ALTERNATIVE D-1

TAKE NO ACTION

Acceptable? Why?

Accept no action. This would be compatible to segments A, B & C. This is also deep canyon country, well protected by nature. I think it is presumptuous for the study team to say the National Park Service has failed in its protection of this segment. They have done an outstanding job with the excellent cooperation of the bureaus. The only bad happening was the failure to control the Mormon Cricket and that was because some educated idiot didn't allow spray to be used, but suggested an anti-larvae which, so far, has not done the job. Thanks to our Extension Agents diligent efforts, the scourge of crickets in greater Moffat County did not happen. Again, we do not want wasted tax dollars and dictator control upstream or downstream.

Not Acceptable? Why?

We do not wish to have the foreign minority have complete control over the future of water resource development upstream or downstream. We like what we have and are proud of the conservation our ancestors have done and will jealously guard against the invasion which takes away our freedom! The Juniper-Great Northern Cross Mountain Hydro-Electric Water Resource will save approximately 1080 tons of coal a month, not to mention the many other pluses that would be derived from the local, state and national future of man as well as the preservation of man!

SEGMENT D

The Yampa River from the eastern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument to its confluence with the Green River.

ALTERNATIVE D-2

DESIGNATE THIS SEGMENT OF THE YAMPA RIVER AS A WILD RIVER AREA UNDER THE WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT.

Acceptable? Why?

474

Not acceptable as per reasons stated in D-1.

Not Acceptable? Why?

MOFFAT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MOFFAT COUNTY

CRAIG, COLORADO 81625

September 6, 1979

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Dear Sirs:

The Commissioners have succeeded in getting the deadline for review of the Draft Wild & Scenic River Study of the Green and Yampa Rivers extended. Public comment will be accepted until October 1, 1979.

In an effort to gain as much local public response as possible, the Commissioners have set up a meeting on September 12, 1979 at 7:30 PM in the Courthouse Auditorium. We urge you, as a representative of your organization, to attend this meeting. It's important because this study will affect Moffat County, the Green and Yampa Rivers and such projects as the Juniper/Cross Mountain Reservoirs. It may be your last chance to supply input into the study before it's finalized.

Thank you.

Sincerely,


Albert Camilletti
Chairman

AC/lb

Suggested Modifications to Alternative D-2.

JAN 14 1980
THE BURN
STAR RT. 1
STEAMBOAT
COLORADO
BOH77

Box 443
Tascals, Utah 84773
Jan. 12, 1980

SIR:

I WRITE TO ENCOURAGE YOU TO
INCLUDE THE YAMPA & GREEN RIVERS
FOR 91 + 47 miles - PLUS A SECTION
FROM INDIAN CROSSING TO LODGE (32 mi.)
ON THE GREEN - IN THE WILD &
SCENIC CATEGORY - PER APPROPRIATE ACT.

471
I FEEL, (AFTER 12 YEARS OF PERSONAL
EXPERIENCE IN THIS AREA - BOTH WINTER & SUMMER)
THAT ANY PROTECTION MUST BE ACCOMPLISHED
AND AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. I OPPOSE ANY
DAMS IN THE MONUMENT AND WANT MY
THOUGHTS TO BE PART OF THE OFFICIAL
RECORD.

SINCERELY,
Wayne Kuhn

Regional Director
National Park Service
P. O. Box 25297
Denver, Colorado

Dear Sir:

Please put us down as strongly in favor of classifying 91 miles
of the Green River and 47 miles of the Yampa as Wild and Scenic Rivers.

We also urge that the 32-mile segment of the Green from Indian
Crossing to the Gates of Lodore be designated as "scenic", for which
it certainly qualifies, instead of "recreational".

We have personally visited the areas involved, and believe they
are among the most beautiful and unspoiled now remaining in Utah and
Colorado. No dams that would adversely affect the proposed Green and
Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers should be permitted.

We request that our letter be made part of the official record.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Keller
Eva Keller

2810 House Ave.
Cheyenne, Wyo. 82001
November 14, 1979

Patricia G. Kepner
1711 E. 21st Street
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82031

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colo. 80225

Dear Sir:

I am writing to bring to your attention, the needs of the city of Cheyenne, a growing city in a growing state. Cheyenne needs to develop its water rights to continue growth. This could be a desperate situation in the near future. I would recommend that you give careful consideration to priorities on the water rights for Cheyenne.

Sincerely,



Mr. Wes Kelley

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Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Concerning: Green-Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers Study

Dear Sir:

Our city of Cheyenne, Wyoming really needs to develop its water rights in order to continue its growth. Our state is going very fast and Cheyenne being the capitol, we will need all the water we can get in the water rights already acquired.

The making of the above rivers into "wild rivers" would stop any of our future development.

Sincerely,



Patricia G. Kepner

September 20, 1979

Mr. Don Bock
National Park Service
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80220

Dear Mr. Bock:

I have reviewed the Draft Wild and Scenic River Study and Draft Environmental Statement for the Green and Yampa Rivers in Colorado and Utah, dated June, 1979, and request that this letter with my comments be included as a part of this study.

I am opposed to the inclusion of any part of the Yampa or Green Rivers in Colorado or Utah as a part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System for the following reasons:

- (1) The National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, Public Law 90-542 is unconstitutional. Public Law 90-542 gives complete authority to the Secretary of Interior to approve or disapprove essentially all major water development projects in the watershed above designated areas. The law expands and increases Federal control while taking away more of our individual property rights. In answer to public concerns expressed about possible additional regulations, interference with private water rights and lands the study teams responds by pointing out (1) "administration will continue under existing agencies with no expected major changes in regulations or permitted river uses; (2) no condemnation of private lands in fee title will be permitted, although a limited number of riverfront scenic easements will be purchased through negotiation, or less likely, condemnation and (3) no need for funding for the purchase of privately owned water rights in the study area is foreseen." Evidently, the only reason for designation of the Yampa and Green Rivers as Wild and Scenic is to expand government control upstream.
- (2) Designation will not have any significant effect in preserving the natural values of the Yampa and Green Rivers. In the summary it states "Inclusion of 91 miles of the Green River and 47 miles of the Yampa River and approximately 44,160 acres comprising their immediate environment in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System will have an overall effect of preserving the existing natural, recreational, cultural, and water resource values of the rivers." Off the 44,160 acres there are approximately 530 acres of deeded land. Since 99% of the proposed area is Federal or State land and since there is to be no major changes in managing these areas, there will be no further beneficial effects of preserving the values of the rivers by designating them as Scenic and Wild.

- (3) Designation of the Yampa and Green Rivers as Scenic and Wild Rivers is not economically feasible. The report states "Designation of the Green and Yampa as National Wild and Scenic Rivers will result in increased recreationist expenditures in the region of approximately \$60,000 annually by 1990. This increase represents about 3 percent of total expected recreational expenditures in 1990. Recreation development will cost \$912,650. An increase of \$30,000 for annual administration, operation and management costs. The increased on-site recreationist expenditures which result from this alternative will contribute \$27,000 annually to the regional economy." The Economic Impact report continues "Should provisions of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act be implemented to prevent or modify the development of major upstream water development projects, there would be unknown potential losses to the regional economy probably amounting to as much as several million dollars or more per year on a continuing basis; construction funds not expended might involve \$37 million or more."
- (4) It is absurd to consider designation of these rivers as Wild and Scenic, when "designation of the river to the National Wild and Scenic River System would probably eliminate up to 521,400,000 kwh/year of potential power, and up to 600,000 acre feet of irrigation, municipal, and industrial water development" at a time when our nation is facing an energy shortage, and when so many people in the world are going to bed hungry every night. If we want to perpetuate the government created energy shortage and create a food shortage in this country, too, this law will certainly help.

For these, and many other reasons, I am opposed to designation of any part of the Yampa and Green Rivers, or any other rivers as Scenic and Wild Rivers.

Sincerely,

C. A. "Ozzie" Kerste

C. A. "Ozzie" Kerste

cc: Senator Gary Hart
Senator William Armstrong
Representative Jim P. Johnson
Representative Ken Kramer

Bangor R.R. Box 67
Craig, Colo. 81625

November 9, 1979

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir:

I am a concerned citizen of Cheyenne, Wyoming who is sick and tired of governmental red tape. Cheyenne has been trying to obtain additional water for several years. Today, I was informed that the National Park Service has recommended that the streams and rivers be declared "white water." I don't care if you desire the area to be "white water" if Cheyenne can have the water to which we have legal rights.

Cheyenne has done an excellent job in preserving and conserving the area where we presently obtain water. How about making some decisions before PEOPLE become an endangered species?

Very truly yours,

Dale A. Kjach

Dale A. Kjach
DAK:sg

478

Dale A. Kjach
2215 E Pershing
Cheyenne, WY 82001

2640 Kohler Drive
Boulder, Colorado 80303

September 9, 1979

Mr. Glen T. Bean
Regional Director,
National Park Service
655 Parfet Street
Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Mr. Bean:

I remain fully in support of the Park Service in its proposal to classify 91 miles of the Green River and 47 miles of the Yampa River as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The preservation of the outstanding values represented by these rivers in their free-flowing states is of utmost importance, and I support you in your recommendation that the Juniper-Cross Mountain, Sheephorn, and Oak Creek projects not be built. To that, I would add my opposition to the ill-advised projects planned for the upper Yampa, such as the Savery-Pothook and Yamcolo and any alterations to the existing Flaming Gorge Dam.

Furthermore, I concur with the Colorado Department of Natural Resources in its recommendation that the 32 mile segment of the Green from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore be classified as "scenic." I urge you to so upgrade your proposal.

Please consider this statement in your deliberations and include it in the official record on this matter.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

E.R. Kohler

E.R. Kohler

Kolob-Virgin River
Audubon Chapter



Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colo. 80225

Dear Regional Director,

The Kolob-Virgin River Audubon Chapter wishes to express our strong support for the Park Service proposal to classify 91 miles of the Green and 47 miles of the Yampa as National Wild and Scenic Rivers. We would also strongly urge that the 32 mile segment of the Green from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore be designated as "scenic", for which it qualifies, instead of "recreational".

We oppose any dams that would adversely affect the proposed Green and Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers, among these being those connected with the Juniper Cross Mountain, Sheep-horn, and Oak Creek Projects. We also oppose the Savery-Pothook and Yamcolo projects and the proposed alterations to the existing Flaming Gorge Dam.

We would like this letter to be made a part of the official record.

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Sincerely,
Florence Knowles
Florence Knowles
Conservation Chairman
P.O. Box 1422
Cedar City, Utah
84720

Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District

GUNNISON, COLORADO 81230 Oct. 29, 1979

Glen T. Bean, Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service, 655 Parfet St.
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

Dear Mr. Bean:

As a member of the Colorado River Water Conservation District (and executive committee) board of directors, and as president of the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District, I protest the inclusion of the Yampa River in northwestern Colorado as a Wild and Scenic River.

TEE CRWCD has been diligently making efforts for several years to harness the Yampa River for electric power generation so vitally needed, as well as for the recreational aspects the Juniper-Cross Mountain project will provide, specifically for citizens of that area of Colorado, but also for citizens of the State of Colorado, the region, and of the Nation--again facilities greatly need for our rapidly expanding recreational-minded population.

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The Park Service, Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service along with other governmental agencies, plus short-sighted environmentalist, seem bent on stopping all progress, not only of Juniper-Cross Mountain, but as well on other similar projects. An example is the Park Service--Bureau of Land Management proposed designation of the Gunnison River from the south boundary of the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument to within two miles of the confluence of the Gunnison River with its North Fork branch where studies are underway looking to the potential of hydro-electric power generation and recreational uses. Wild and Scenic designation of that section of the Gunnison River within the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument seem superfluous inasmuch as controled use is already in existence. To further close the lower part of the Gunnison River above the confluence with the North Fork of the Gunnison River will put an end to potential hydro-electric generation and recreational uses. This proposal smacks of collusion.

There are obviously some stretches of free-flowing rivers in Colorado which may lend themselves to wild and scenic designation, such as that section of the Dolores River in Southwestern Colorado below the McPhee reservoir of the Dolores Project.

(more)

Letter to Glen T. Bean -- Page 2 Oct. 29, 1979

Similarly, strenous efforts are being made by environmental agencies to increase the acreages of existing --and creation of -- additional Wilderness areas.

I am not vehemently opposed to Wilderness if and when it can be located and managed properly, but I am opposed to indiscriminate designation of huge acreages which do contain resources the Nation needs for its continued growth and progress.

Having been actively interested and engaged for nearly 50 years in promoting wise use of the Nation's resources, and particularly its water resources, I firmly believe there is a point of diminishing returns in many such proposals, and I do urge serious and constant efforts on the part of the National Park Service (as well as all agencies so engaged in management of public lands) to monitor and carefully scrutinize proposal which may eventually stymie the Nation's health and well-being.

Sincerely yours,

Rial R. Lake,
Rial R. Lake, President UGRWCD

Box 87
Cortaro, AZ 85230
September 26, 1979

Regional Director, National Park Service
P.O. Box 25237
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sirs:

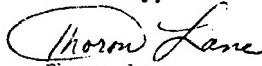
I support your proposal to classify 91 miles of the Green and 47 miles of the Yampa as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. I feel the 32 mile segment of the Green from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore should be classified as "scenic," instead of "recreational."

With over 10,000 dams restricting U.S. rivers today, I believe we need to set aside rivers and river segments for preservation where dams and other developments are prohibited.

Please enter my comments as part of the official record.

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Sincerely,


Marion Larsen

418 East Jefferson Rd.
Cheyenne, Wyo. S2001
November 14, 1979

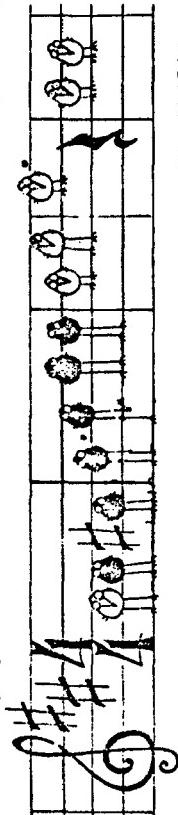
Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colo. 80225

Re: Green-Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers Study

The city of Cheyenne needs to develop its water rights to continue growth in a growing state. Please, consider the needs of people ahead of "wild and scenic rivers".

Sincerely,


Mrs. Marion Larsen



JUN 14 1950

Dear Sir

I am writing in regard to the proposed designation of parts of Colorado's Green and Yampa Rivers as National Wild and Scenic Rivers. I was until just recently unaware of the possible changes in the status of these rivers and am still relatively uneducated concerning these proposed changes. I am concerned however, for the future planning of this area of northern Colorado.

As a ten year resident of Steamboat Springs, I first this summer became acquainted with the area under discussion, specifically that around Dinosaur Park, Monument and Brown's Park. This area left a deep impression on me. I was aware that scenery like that existed in Colorado previously, or otherwise, but that matter. In this area I travelled, I remember seeing one or two industry related sites and they seemed completely out of place.

The country I am speaking of is remarkably untouched and I would hope it could remain that way. That untouched quality is disappearing so quickly from our land. As I understand it, the designation of some 91 miles of the Green River and 41 miles of the Yampa as "National Wild and Scenic Rivers would allow much of this untouched to remain unaffected by encroaching industries. To me, the benefits of this whole of action to the future of Colorado would be very great.

I also feel that the 32 mile segment of the Green River from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore should be designated scenic rather than as recreational. to maintain the natural state of this area.

Thank you for the opportunity to air my thoughts on this subject. I hope you will give them your consideration.

Sincerely,

Susan E. Lee
P.O. Box 1258
Steamboat Springs, Co.
80477

1. Please make this letter part of your official record, if possible.

THE CONSERVATION LAW SOCIETY OF AMERICA

DIRECTORS
STUART R. DOLE
DAVID C. DUNLAP
ARTHUR FORNICHELLI
RICHARD M. LEONARD

15TH FLOOR-MILLS TOWER - 220 BUSH STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94104
TELEPHONE AREA CODE 415 - 981-7800

ROBERT W. JASPERSON
GENERAL COUNSEL

September 30, 1979

Regional Director
National Park Service
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

Re: The Green and the Yampa

Dear Mr. Director:

I strongly support the Park Service in its recommendation of National Wild and Scenic River status for the truly wild portions of those rivers in and near Dinosaur National Monument.

In 1953, as President of the Sierra Club, I led the first of the many trips down the wild Yampa and Green Rivers.

It is also important that the Service use its influence to avoid dams and diversions on the upper Yampa.

Please make this a part of the hearing record.

Sincerely,

Richard M. Leonard
President

cc: President and Executive
Director Sierra Club
President and Executive
Director The Wilderness Society
President and Executive
Director American Wilderness Alliance

January 12, 1980

Regional Director,
National Park Service.
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir:

I strongly support classification of 91 miles of the Green River and 47 miles of the Yampa River as Wild and Scenic. I also urge that you propose the 32 mile segment of the Green River from Island Crossing to the Gates of Lodore as Scenic. I oppose any dams that would affect these rivers.

I have run the Green River several times and I am very familiar with the section from Island Park to Split Mountain Campground in Dinosaur Nat'l. Monument. I fear that unless the aforementioned proposals are enacted that the Green and Yampa Rivers will no longer be enjoyable or possible to run. I hope you make this letter a part of the official record.

Sincerely,
Henry Margulane
565 East 200 North
Pleasant Grove, Utah 84062

454

2513 Chey. Room 302
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001
January 14, 1979

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Hartman:

Re: Green-Yampa Wild and Scenic River Study

As a citizen of the Cheyenne area I am concerned about the Green-Yampa Wild and Scenic River Study since the city of Cheyenne has been developing its water supply through use of some of the water in the future. Cheyenne is a fast growing city and its irrigation needs its water supply to develop without additional costs and damage.

This development has been going on since 1951 and it would urge that nothing be done to alter the development of Cheyenne's future water supply.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Eleanor Malmgren

3227 Bryant Street
Denver, Colorado 80211

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Parks Service
Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir:

I am writing in regard to the Yampa and Green Rivers in Dinosaur National Monument. I believe you are engaged in a study to see if these rivers should be classified as "wild and scenic." I believe they should be classified as wild and scenic to preserve their beauty and natural splendor.

I have camped and hiked in this area extensively for the last five years and believe it to be one of the most awesome and beautiful areas of Colorado. If this area were to be altered by intervention of man, I believe it would demonstrate our disrespect and disregard for natural splendor.

I urge you to classify this area as "wild and scenic" so that now and in the future we can enjoy this area, undisturbed by man's senseless destruction.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,
Martin Malone
Martin Malone

1105 Wildwood Road
Boulder, CO 80303
January 14, 1980

David B. Marshall
and Chris Kelly
153 So. 1300E. #2
Salt Lake City, UT
84102

Regional Director
National Park Service
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

Dear Sir:

We would like to express our support for the National Park Service proposal to classify 91 miles of the Green River and 47 miles of the Yampa River as National Wild and Scenic Rivers. We would also like to urge that the 32-mile segment of the Green River from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore be designated "scenic," for which it qualifies, instead of "recreational."

Our family has taken most enjoyable raft trips on these rivers in the past. We would most emphatically oppose the construction of any dams that would adversely affect the proposed Green and Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers.

We would like to request that our letter be made part of the official record. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. Peter A. Mandics

Mr. and Mrs. Peter A. Mandics

485

Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

Dear Sir,

We are both Utahns who have spent some time on the banks of the Green River, upstream from Dinosaur National Monument. In our opinion, it is the most spectacularly scenic river in a desert setting (second only to the Colorado as it flows through the Grand Canyon) that we have ever seen. Any damming of this swift-flowing river would greatly impair if not destroy its scenic and recreational value. Therefore, we strongly support the Park Service proposal that would classify the Green and Yampa Rivers as National Wild and Scenic Rivers. We oppose any damming of these rivers - this country has more than enough evaporative loss basins already. For those who would ask for reservoirs for recreation, we would paraphrase Aldo Leopold: Reservoir-type water recreation has seized the vast majority of water recreation areas in the country. A decent respect for minorities would preserve the few remaining wild areas for more natural types of water recreation. We ask that our opinions on this matter be made part of the public record.

Sincerely,
David Marshall
Chris Kelly
David Marshall
Chris Kelly

M.M. McInney Jr. (81640)
(Box 125)

Sept 30, 1979

3936 Sunny Dale Dr.
Salt Lake City, Utah 84117
August 14, 1979

Don Back,
National Park Service
P. O. 25287
Denver, Co. 80225

This letter is to be included in the Wild and
Scenic Rivers Study, Yampa River Dinosaur
National Monument.

98

Dear Sir,
as the whole Wild and Scenic Rivers
study is some ones opinion I want my opinion
included also. The Dinosaur National Monument
is already a Park and controlled. No one can
invade the area or cause any changes with
in the Monument. We have lived here 40 years
and the area has the same scenic value.
We need no control on the river above the
monument as it has no scenic values like
need the Juniper-Cross Mountain project. The
water storage is needed now. Also the dam's
would make more recreation fishing and scenic.
than this is at present. I believe the government
wants more controls, to make the Yampa
wild River in the Park is just a start to get
the whole River controlled.

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. BOX 25287
Denver, Colo. 80225

Sir;

I strongly support the National Park Service's proposal
to increase the size of the Green and Yampa River Study Areas.

I urge that Alternative 2 be adopted as the best plan for
including as much area as possible in the National Wild and
Scenic River System.

Please enter this as part of the record for the DES on
the Green and Yampa Rivers.

Respectfully,

Jane L. McKinney
Jane L. McKinney

Lincerely
Jane L. McKinney
Georgia McIntyre

Palisade, Colorado
November 5, 1979

Mr. Glen T. Bean, Regional Director
Rocky Mtn. Regional Office
National Park Service
655 Parfet Street, P. O. 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Mr. Bean:

The subject of this correspondence concerns the Juniper-Cross Mountain Project.

Admittedly, we all should be concerned about what happens when streams are impounded. But, on the other hand it is hoped that those carrying the "big stick" would resolve their attitudes in favor of basic need of humanity, our state and nation.

No need to delve in detail about what is expected from the State of Colorado concerning energy, flood control, irrigation and the ultimate economic benefits, as I'm sure you're well aware of it.

Resolution to impoundment projects are not simple but they are the answer in providing the basic need to impact areas where demands on developing resources is being forced. Can we have one without the other? I believe not. So let's not kid ourselves. The livelihood and future of the west as well as the nation is dependent on water impoundments such as Juniper-Cross.

Hopefully an objective decision can be made on this project rather than one of subjective prejudice on what the priorities should be in this matter. One question, How would the major cities and small towns have survived in this nation of ours without impoundments man-made or natural? The City of Denver, I'm sure, would never have realized the potential it has. Would attitudes toward this project be different if the water was meant for the Mile High City?

There are times when it becomes necessary to get off the environmental treadmill and apply judicious reasoning to our state and national needs. I believe this to be one of those times.

Yours truly,
Albert J. Merlino
Albert J. Merlino
Ex-Mayor
Town of Palisade
Box 205
Palisade, Colorado 81526

Baggs Route #74
Craig, Colorado 81625
September 20, 1979

Regional Director
National Park Service
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir:

At the time conservationists were opposing the building of Echo Park Dam, General U. S. Grant, III, President, American Planning and Civic Association, proposed an alternative plan which included Cross Mountain Dam. The plan was discussed in THE LIVING WILDERNESS published by the Wilderness Society, Issue Number 34 - Autumn 1950, in an article titled "The Dinosaur Dam Sites Are Not Needed".

The Cross Mountain dam referred to was apparently a much larger dam and reservoir than what is presently being discussed because at a meeting of the Colorado Water Conservation Board in Denver, October 14, 1954, Mr. E. O. Larsen, Regional Director of the Bureau of Reclamation, Salt Lake City, stated "Juniper is a small project which would be covered by Cross Mountain".

Many persons, representative of various conservation groups, espoused the proposal of General Grant at hearings before the Secretary of Interior and Committees of the United States Congress.

THE SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN, February 1954, page 11, advocated General Grant's proposal to build Cross Mountain Dam as an alternative to Echo Park and Split Mountain Dams. On June 28, 1954, David R. Brower, executive director of the Sierra Club testified before the Subcommittee on Irrigation of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, United States Senate, Washington, D. C., in favor of Cross Mountain Dam as part of an alternative.

From the above, one would presume the conservationists including the Sierra Club would have no objections to Cross Mountain Dam or Juniper Dam if a smaller dam or no dam were built at Cross Mountain. But, that presumption is wrong.

PEAK & PRAIRIE, September 1979 (a publication of the Rocky Mountain Chapter - Sierra Club) urges that letters be written immediately to support the Wild and Scenic Rivers designation for the Green and Yampa Rivers because "A myriad of water and power projects threaten the Green and Yampa. They would destroy or impair the outstanding natural values of the proposed rivers. Among them are the Juniper-Cross Mountain, Sheephorn and Oak Creek Projects....Wild and Scenic river designation prohibits dams and other developments that destroy a free-flowing river."

So much for integrity!

I request that my letter be made a part of the official record. Thank you.

Yours truly,
Louise Miller
Louise Miller

Marvin Moore

REAL ESTATE BROKER

Real Estate -- Trading -- Investments

1570 N. RANNEY ST.

303-824-9249

CRAIG COLOR. 81425

Mr. Glen T. Bean, Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service,
655 Parfet St.
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Mr. Bean:

I am against scenic and wild rivers designation of the Yampa River. It is more important to everyone to have the water needed to support the immediate needs. Although the recreation is only a minor part of the project, that too is in high demand therefore, I'm all for the Juniper-Cross Mountain.

Sincerely,


Marvin Moore

4
88

" . . . He has erected a Multitude of New Offices, and sent hither
Swarms of Officers to harass our People, and eat out their
Substance." — The Declaration of Independence

Bill Myers
3377 West Hayward Pl.
Denver, CO 80211

September 18th, 1979

Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

Re: Green and Yampa Rivers Wilderness Designation

Dear Director:

I am writing in support of the designation of the Green and Yampa Rivers as wild rivers. Both rivers are essentially unimpaired, freeflowing streams which are quite scenic and still in their wild state. The rivers provide a good habitat for many of our larger mammals such as bobcat, coyote, big-horn sheep, elk, and antelope. They have provided me and several of my friends with unique recreational opportunities in the past, and hopefully the future as well. The Yampa itself supports some fish which are listed as endangered species: the Colorado squawfish, and the humpback chub.

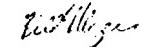
It is critical that these two rivers receive scenic status now for a number of reasons. First, the Yampa is the longest(230 miles or so), and largest undammed tributary of the Colorado River basin. At present, there is a considerable amount of pressure to build several dams and other water projects which would permanently destroy critical habitat of the endangered fish species, and forever impair the wild river status of the Yampa. Second, as yet there are no wild or scenic river designated streams in Colorado or Utah; designation of these qualified streams would preserve them in their natural state.

Specifically, I think that the 47 miles of the Green River from the Forest Service spillway below Flaming Gorge Dam to the Gates of Lodore as "scenic" and the 44 miles from Lodore to the southern border of Dinosaur National Monument as "wild" is an important and critical decision that the Park Service should recommend to Congress. For the Yampa, I believe that the Park Service should recommend that the 47 mile segment from the eastern edge of the Dinosaur National Monument to its merger with the Green River qualifies as, and should be named as "wild."

Neither stream's designation as "scenic" or "wild" would have any adverse affect upon the government's fiscal requirements. Most of the banks, (in fact less than 1000 acres I am told are privately owned) are already publicly owned.

Finally, I would like my letter to be made part of the official record on these rivers.

Yours truly,


Bill Myers

14 November 1979
535 Mapleton Ave
Boulder, CO 80302

National Park Service
Dinosaur National Park
Dinosaur, Colorado

Dear Sirs:

Please be advised that we are strongly opposed to any damming of the Yampa River in Colorado. We favor inclusion of the Yampa in the "wild and scenic" system as the only way to preserve this great river.

Thank you.

Yours truly,



Fe and Burton Myers

68+

CC: Sen. Gary Hart
Sen. William Armstrong
Rep. Tim Wirth
Rep. Jim Johnson
Rep. Pat Schroeder
Rep. Ken Kramer

COLIN NEAL

PHOTOGRAPHY

Regional Director
National Park Service
Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

January 12, 1980

Dear Sir:

The wild sections of the Green and Yampa are some of the most beautiful places in the world to me. They are wilderness environments where one can get away from the pressures of society and renew oneself. As a small businessman who works long hard hours, such places are vitally important to me.

Accordingly, I want you to know that I strongly support the NPS proposal to classify 91 miles of the Green and 47 miles of the Yampa as wild and scenic rivers. I would also urge that the 32 mile section of the Green above the Gates of Lodore also be designated as scenic. As you know, many people are running this section and finding it extremely lovely and certainly worthy of preservation.

I hope that you will vigorously resist any proposals for dams on the Green or Yampa. How shortsighted it would be to destroy any parts of these truly marvelous wilderness rivers.

Please make this letter a part of the official record, and keep up the good work to protect America's precious wilderness areas.

Sincerely,


Colin Neal

New Mexico



WILDERNESS STUDY COMMITTEE



Regional Director
National Park Service

P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colo. 80225

Dear Sir:

We strongly support the Park Service proposal to classify 91 miles of the Green and 47 miles of the Yampa as National Wild and Scenic Rivers.

490 We also urge that the 32 mile segment of the Green from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore be designated as scenic for which it qualifies.

We also oppose the construction of any dams in these rivers.

Please make this letter a part of the official record.

Sincerely,
Mike M. Conrad
Vetra Conrad

Mike & Vetra Conrad
901 Hahn Ave. N.E.
Albuquerque, NM 87112

Dear Sirs,

I strongly support the inclusion of ninety-one miles of the Green River and Forty-seven miles of the Yampa River as Wild & Scenic Rivers. I also urge that the thirty-two miles of the Green River from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore be classified Scenic rather than Recreational. I strongly oppose the building of any dams on either river as they would adversely affect the character of the rivers. Please include this letter in the official record.

yours truly,
Joseph Meister

H. Meister
Box 1723
St. B. St. S., Co.
80477

DIRECTORS
Robert G. Grimes
John W. Newline
Alan McDermitt
Janice Hall
Raymond White
Harry R. Swanson
Gerrit Volk
ATTORNEYS
William True
Doris, Colorado

NORTH FORK
WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 128
HOTCHKISS, COLORADO 81419
THE PAONIA PROJECT

OFFICERS
Robert G. Grimes
President
Lester
Almon McDermitt
Vice President
Parrie
John R. True
Secretary-Treasurer
Matthew
Hazel Grimes
Asst. Secretary-Treasurer

Nov. 12, 1979.

Mr. Alan T. Bean, Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region Office
National Park Service, 655 Baspet St.
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colo. 80225

Dear Mr. Bean:

Re: Green-Cross
Mountain Hydro Corp

601
The North Fork Water Conservancy
Dist. favors the building of higher-
Cross Mountain Hydro project. And every
other hydro project we can build in
Western Colo.

We need the power & we need
to store all the water we can in
Colo. We don't need any more
power movements - birds nests,-
squaw fish - or Eastern flatlanders
telling us how to live!

Very truly yours
John R. True
Secy.

cc - Roland Fisher

MAILGRAM SERVICE CENTER
MIDDLETON, VA. 22045



4-0421545310 11/12/79 ICS IPMMT2Z CSP DVB8
3070347755 MGM TDHT CHEYENNE WY 55 11-12 0418P EST

► REGIONAL DIRECTOR<ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION>NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
655 FARFET
DENVER CO 80225

REGARDING THE GREEN-YAMPA RIVER STUDIES FROM THE US DEPT OF INTERIOR,
WE MUST HAVE AN EFFECTIVE WATER EXPANSION FOR THE CHEYENNE WYOMING
AREA. WE MUST BE ABLE TO HAVE UP-STREAM DEVELOPMENT TO KEEP CHEYENNE
VIABLE
CARL J OCCIMINTI KYCU TV CHEYENNE WYOMING

16017 EST
MGMCOMP MGM

September 18, 1979

Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir,

We the undersigned, strongly support the Park Service proposal to classify 91 miles of the Green River and 47 miles of the Yampa River as National Wild and Scenic Rivers. We urge that the 32 mile segment of the Green from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore be designated as "scenic", for which it qualifies, instead of "recreational". We oppose any dams that would adversely affect the proposed Green and Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers. We ask that this letter be made part of the official record.

Yours Sincerely,

*Michael Estepes 2201 South Barnard
Denver Colorado*

*John Austin 1872 So Lincoln 80203
Denver, CO, 80216*

492
*Mrs. Stanley K. Clegg 1057 Harrison Denver 80206
Mrs. James E. Turner 49 S. Cook Denver 80209
Peak Branch 1100 Harrison Denver 80206
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Sloane Denver 80206
1054 Harrison St.*

Regional Director
National Park Service
Rocky Mountain Region
P. O. Box 25287
Denver Federal Center
Denver, Colorado 80225

November 19, 1979



1280 West Bayaud • Denver, Colorado 80223 • Telephone (303) 777-7000

Re: Draft of Wild & Scenic
River Study, Green and
Yampa Rivers

Dear Sir:

I would like to voice my support of the plan to set aside the Green and Yampa Rivers in the wild and scenic rivers system. I also concur with the Colorado Department of Natural Resources' recommendation that segment B (Browns Park) be classified as a scenic river area. Finally, I wish to raise this program's strongest opposition to the proposed upstream development of the Juniper Springs-Cross Mountain project.

Partners' River Program has been running trips on the Green and Yampa Rivers for "in-trouble" and disadvantaged youth since 1971 (approximately 200 trips with over 3,000 participants). These people have come from the Denver Metro, Greeley, Ft. Collins and Grand Junction areas and have taken from this "wilderness experience" a much greater appreciation of the natural environment, compassion for their fellow beings and community, and an increased awareness of their own self image. To take away the wilderness characteristics of these rivers by damming the upper Yampa would severely distract from our and future social services-related programs.

Partners feels that the River Program plays a significant part in the success they have had with recidivism and helping youngsters function in society.

Will you please include this letter in the final draft so that people can see that not only are there viable environmental and recreational reasons for wild and scenic designation but societal reasons as well.

Thank you,

Bill Dvorak
Bill Dvorak
Partners River Program Coordinator

6363 Iris Way
Arvada, Colorado 80004
January 10, 1980

Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir:

The purpose of this letter is to express my wholehearted support for the proposed Wild and Scenic status, as proposed by the National Park Service for the Green and Yampa Rivers in northwestern Colorado.

It wasn't until 1971 that I "discovered" the areas in and around Dinosaur National Monument. Since then, I have spent countless days floating the rivers and hiking the many canyons and old mining and ranching roads. In a word, I "love" this entire area. I have been here in the blazing summer and in the frigid winter. I have seen most of the wildlife which this canyon region has to offer, from a cougar, in 1973, to numerous bald eagles. One of the saddest days of my life was in the Spring of 1974 when I found the carcass of a bald eagle at Deerlodge Park. The dead eagle, was, of course, turned in to the Monument Headquarters. I therefore know this area, and am firmly convinced that this area must be granted Wild and Scenic river status.

In this regard, hereby support the following proposals:

1. The National Park Service proposal to classify 91 miles of the Green and 47 miles of the Yampa as National Wild and Scenic Rivers.
2. The 32 mile segment of the Green from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore be designated as "scenic" instead of "recreational".

In addition, I feel that the entire area will be ruined if any dam is built on the Yampa or any of its tributaries. Any of the proposed dams, like those at Juniper-Cross Mountain, Sheephorn, Oak Creek, and Savery-Pothook would change the ecology of this entire watershed. I therefore oppose all dams proposed for the Yampa and its tributaries.

I also ask that this letter be made a part of the official record of the hearings regarding this matter.

Sincerely yours,
Charles Joseph Paterá

Dear Sir,

It is my firm belief that the altering and obstruction mainly "DAMS" of the wild rivers that run off the Western slope is a cruel rape of the natural landscape of this area not to mention the adverse affect on the natural ecosystems that have survived for so many centuries.

Therefor I would like to see 91 miles of the green and another 47 miles of the yampa desinated wild and scenic and also that an additional 32 miles of the green from Indian crossing to the Gates of Lodore be desinated wild and scenic an NOT "recreational"!

Please include in the official record.

P.O. Box 1635
STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, Colorado |
80477

Thank you
very much
Larry Pearl

Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

September 4, 1979

Dear Sir:

Please include the following comments in the official comment record for the Wild and Scenic River proposals for the Green and Yampa Rivers.

As a Utahn I strongly support the National Park Service proposal to designate 91 miles of the wild Green River and 47 miles of the Yampa River as Wild and Scenic Rivers. These are outstanding proposals, are basically conflict-free (i.e. minimal private land/access conflicts) and represent a sound attempt by the Park Service to recognize the superior national attention these wild rivers have received and deserve to continue to receive as undeveloped, unimpeded sources of recreation and irreplaceably clean water for the Colorado River Basin states.

One specific comment: a segment of river proposed as recreational, from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore, should be elevated to "scenic" designation. The beautiful Browns Park area is stunningly beautiful and wild and a scenic, not recreational designation is much more deserved.

494

In opposing the various dam proposals for the Yampa and Green Rivers, the Park Service is lending credence to its goals of preserving America's treasures in spite of strong economic and political pressures. In accordance with the dynamic leadership of and feelings expressed by Director William Whalen at the National Audubon Society Conference in Estes Park, Colorado earlier this summer, the Park Service is acting in the best intent of the people of this nation in proposing these first Colorado and Utah rivers for Wild and Scenic River status. These dams do not have public support. Utahns recently vigorously and vocally attacked a proposed Utah Power and Light/Desolation Canyon dam proposal for the Green River north of Green River, Utah. The river is our heritage, our backcountry, our white-water resource, our wild spirit in the midst of development of an arid land.

Our people deserve this reservation of western wild rivers. I heartily support the National Park Service proposal for this important designation.

Sincerely,

Margaret Pettis

Margaret Pettis
1384 South 600 East
Salt Lake City, Utah 84105

Margaret Pettis
High Uintas Wilderness Coalition
P.O. Box 1231
Salt Lake City, Utah 84110

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
PO Box 25487
Denver, Colorado 80225

Sir,

I commend the National Park Service's
recent intention to alter Yucca Flat test site
to the Green and Yangas Roads and recommend
along this I alternative & in view of
increasing "development" of underground
country, particularly in the West and in Utah,
that maximum protection of this area
is necessary to minimize a large quantity
within requirements of greater underground
nesting areas (Bonneville Park), and hope
locating for use your Yucca Flat underground
sites which are fewer in the future.

Very truly yours,

I am strongly opposed to any
further action which would elaborate
the regional wildlife habitat or allow any
other assignments along these lines.
Please review my comments & the
public action of the DCS.

Thank you
James H. Price
1007 Sixth Street
Dale City
8405

9-5-79

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Sir,

I'm writing to you today in support of alternative 2 and your proposal that longer segment of the Green and Yampa Rivers be added to the National Wild and Scenic River System.

I believe that adding a 91 mile study segment of the Green and a 47 mile study segment of the Yampa to this system will provide the largest degree of protection for the rivers and their resources.

I appreciate the fact that "Wild & Scenic" designation restrict construction and development of any kind within the immediate river environs and limits accessibility.

1404 Orchard Ave.
Boulder, Colorado
80302
January 8, 1979

Regional Director
National Park Service
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir:

I would like to add my support to the Park Service's proposal to classify 91 miles of the Green and 47 miles of the Yampa Rivers as "National Wild and Scenic Rivers". I would hope you would, also, change the status of the Green from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore as scenic rather than just recreational. These two rivers, at least in the areas proposed, symbolize to me more than just two untamed rivers to me. They represent a whole ecological system in a state before man became too greedy and modernized. They represent the old West.

The only way most people get to see the inside of Dinosaur National Monument is by floating the rivers. If the water level is lowered this would be impossible. And what would be the effect of a low stream flow to the ecological system both in and around the rivers, if not disastrous.

I hope you will make my letter part of the official record.

Sincerely,


Carolyn A. Pitter

Thank You
Valerie Finsol
1067 3rd Street
Salt Lake City, Utah
84105

2434 South Humboldt
Denver, Colorado 80210
9 September 1979

Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Re: Green and Yampa Rivers

I am writing in support of the National Park Service proposal to add 91 miles of the Green River in Colorado and Utah and 47 miles of the Yampa River in Colorado to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

I've floated many of these miles on these rivers on raft trips and I have seen firsthand the outstanding scenic, geologic, recreational, and fish and wildlife values which qualify the Green and Yampa for Wild and Scenic Rivers designation. I do support, however, a change in the designation of the 32 mile segment of the Green River from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore. It is classified as recreational in the proposed plan and I believe it should be given a scenic classification.

Please include this letter in the public comment record for the Green and Yampa River study.

497

Sincerely,

Linda Pohle

Linda Pohle

Dear Sirs:

I strongly support the inclusion of ninety-one miles of the Green River and forty-seven miles of the Yampa River as wild and scenic Rivers. I also urge that the thirty-two miles of the Green River from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore be classified scenic rather than recreational. I adamantly oppose the building of any dams on either river as they would adversely affect the character of the rivers. Please include this letter in the official record.

Yours Truly,
Linda M. Randolph
188 S. Clarkson #106
Denver, Co. 80209

4940 Thunderbird
Boulder, Colo. 80303

Dear Sirs,
I strongly support the inclusion of
ninety-one miles of the Green River and forty-
seven miles of the Yampa River as Wild and
Scenic Rivers. I also urge that the thirty-
two miles of the Green River from Indian
Crossing to the Gates of Lodore be classified
Scenic rather than Recreational. I
adamantly oppose the building of any dams
on either river as they would adversely
affect the character of the rivers. Please
include this letter in the official record.

Regional Director
National Park Service
Box 25287
Denver, Colo. 80225

Dear Sirs:

I strongly support the inclusion
of ninety-one miles of the Green River and
forty-seven miles of the Yampa River as
Wild & Scenic Rivers. I also urge that the
thirty-two miles of the Green River from Indian
Crossing to the Gates of Lodore be classified
as "Recreational". I adamantly oppose
the building of any dams on either
river as they would adversely affect
the character of the rivers. Please
include this letter in the official record.

Yours truly
John Rawlson
Box 985
Sterling, S.P.D., Colo.
80477

Apr. 13, 1980

Dear Sirs,

I strongly support the inclusion of ninety-one miles of the Green River and forty-seven miles of the Yampa River as Wild and Scenic Rivers. I also urge that the thirty-two miles of the Green River from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore be classified Scenic rather than recreational. I adamantly oppose the building of any dams on either river as they would adversely affect the character of the rivers. Please include this letter in the official record.

499

Yours truly,
Maria Randolph
Box 2843
Steamboat Springs, Colorado
80657

Dear Sirs:

I strongly support the inclusion of ninety-one miles of the Green River and forty-seven miles of the Yampa River as wild and scenic rivers. I also urge that the thirty-two miles of the Green River from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore be classified scenic rather than recreational. I adamantly oppose the building of any dams on either river as they would adversely affect the character of the rivers. Please include this letter in the official record.

Yours Truly,

Kel J. Randolph
Box 2843
Steamboat Springs,
Colo. 80657

Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

January 8, 1980

Re: Gunnison River
Scenic Rivers

Dear Sir:

I strongly support your Park Service proposal for Wild and Scenic River status for parts of the Gunnison and Yampa Rivers. I urge you to upgrade the segment of the Gunnison from Indian Crossing to the site of todays proposed dam. I am also very opposed to any dams on the Yampa, in particular which would affect water flows.

I also want Searlton and Gray Canyon on the Gunnison included in the Wild and Scenic River system.

Please make this letter a part of its official record.

I am a river rafter and these rivers are an important part of my recreation.

Very truly yours,
Charles A. Ranney

Charles A. Ranney

Persons:
I wish to support the Park Service's proposal to classify stretches on the Yampa and Green as Wild and Scenic Rivers. (The Dolores along the Colo-Utah border would also be

* Good better!) I oppose dams on these rivers, or taking large amounts of water from them.
Paul W. Rea
Mo. Mt. St
Greeley

9-22-79

Sirs:

I am writing in regards to the proposed Wilderness area for the Green and Yampa rivers. I can understand the basic premise of preserving this kind for wilderness for future generations. I may even succumb to that belief if I was forced to live in a smog-filled corrupt area such as Washington D.C.

But sirs, the hard facts of reality are all we of the over-taxed populace understand. The government (federal & state) are pushing for more and more control over the people through programs such as this. It is nothing more than plain theft of land whether it is privately owned or so called public owned. The government has no business owning nor controlling land, except as so designated by Article I - Section 8 of the Constitution. I realize that most people in government no longer consider the Constitution a worthwhile

(2)
document. But it is time sirs that you face up to the hard-facts of reality, and that is that "We the People" if so forced will resort to the use of certain unalienable rights to resolve this matter. Please make this letter a matter of record.

Yours Respectively,

Gary Rebehn

GARY REBEHN
Box 504
CRAIG, Colo.
81625

ABRAXAS SYSTEMS

P.O. Box 205
3227 D Road
Grand Junction, Co. 81501
(303) 434-5226

January 11, 1979

Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

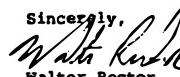
Dear Sir:

I would like to go on record as strongly supporting any and all Park Service proposals that would preserve the character of the Green and Yampa Rivers in the Dinosaur National Monument area. As a frequent visitor to Dinosaur over the last several years I have long been taken by the beauty and wildness of these rivers, even though limited by the availability of roads to a very few stretches of the river. Four days of rafting on the Yampa last year made me appreciate it all the more. That is unquestionably wild river, and deserves all the help it can to stay that way.

You can also count on my continued support in any future attempts to protect these rivers against the threat of upstream development which might adversely affect them.

502

Please include my letter in the official records pertaining to this matter.

Sincerely,

Walter Rector
President

WCR/lw

54 L Street
Salt Lake City, Utah
September 5, 1979

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir,

I strongly support the U.S. Department of Interior's proposal to designate 91 miles of the Green River and 47 miles of the Yampa River as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. I urge that the proposed action, as stated in the Environmental Statement for the Green-Yampa Rivers Study, be adopted. This stretch of the Green is ideal for rafting and I would like to see its integrity maintained.

Preservation of the Yampa in its present, free-flowing state is essential in insuring the survival of the endangered humpback chub and Colorado squawfish (as well as other rare

native fishes like the honey-tail chub and humpback sucker). Impoundments in other rivers have destroyed habitat for these, endangered and rare native fishes. The Yampa is one of the few, if not the only, rivers where these natives are not threatened by habitat destruction or competition with introduced species.

I hope the proposal will be adopted.

Thank you for the opportunity to

Comment

Sincerely,
Joelle J. Reece
Joelle J. Reece

504
Dear Sir/Madam,

I support the Park Service Proposal to classify 91¹/₂ miles of the Green/Yampa Rivers as National Wild and Scenic Rivers. I also oppose any dams which would adversely affect these rivers. I took a raft trip down the Green River this summer and hope to take some friends & relatives down in the future, so I want to preserve it in the condition it's in.

Ronald D. Peace

2640 Kohler Drive
Boulder, Colorado 80303

September 9, 1979

Mr. Glen T. Bean
Regional Director,
National Park Service
655 Parfet Street
Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Mr. Bean:

By this, please know my strong support for the addition of the Yampa and Green rivers to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. I am encouraged by the Park Service's proposal. I am concerned, however, that the 32 mile segment of the Green from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore was recommended only for "recreational" status. I urge you to recommend that stretch in your final report for "scenic" status for which it qualifies.

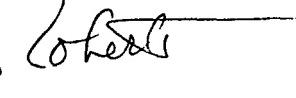
Moreover, it is my view that the planned water and power developments known as Juniper-Cross Mountain, Sheephorn, Oak Creek, Savery-Pothook, and Yamcolo, plus any additions to the existing Flaming Gorge Dam, are not well thought out. The threats these projects represent to the popular and nationally known values of the Green and Yampa rivers pose serious violations of the public trust. It must be made clear that preservation of our few remaining natural and free-flowing waters best serves all Americans.

Please consider these concerns in making your final report and include this statement in the official records pertaining to this matter.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

John Roberts



505

Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir/Madam:

This letter is written in strong support of the Park Service proposal to classify 91 miles of the Green River and 47 miles of the Yampa River as National Wild and Scenic Rivers.

I also urge that the 32 mile segment of the Green from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore be designated as "scenic," for which it qualifies, instead of "recreational."

I am also opposed to any dams that would adversely affect the proposed Green and Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Please make this letter a part of the official record. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,



Bobbie L. Ruth

Bobbie L. Ruth
1639 Yosemite
Denver, Colorado 80220
September 24, 1979

Ronald L. Rudolph
1100A Balboa
San Francisco, CA, 94113

September 21, 1979

Mr. Glen Dean, Regional Director
National Park Service
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
Department of the Interior
655 Tarbet St. Box 65287
Denver, CO. 80225

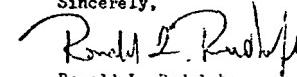
Re: Green River and Yampa River Wild and Scenic River Proposal

Dear Mr. Dean:

I am writing in full support of the National Park Service's proposal to designate 91 miles of the Green River and 47 miles of the Yampa River as Wild and Scenic.

I have never had the opportunity to float either stretches of river, however, I certainly hope to in my lifetime. The Green and Yampa should be kept undammed for this and future generations to enjoy in all their wild splendor. Please stick to your original proposal and keep the Green and Yampa free forever.

Sincerely,


Ronald L. Rudolph
Energy Coordinator

Dear Mr. Thompson:

7 September 1979

Thank you for sending me a review copy of the Draft Wild and Scenic River Study and Environmental Statement for the Green and Yampa Rivers. I fully support the recommendations of the study team, with one exception: The reach known as Segment C, Green River, be classified as Scenic and not Recreational, as the Colorado DNR suggests. This should afford an additional degree of resource protection.

The Environmental Statement should treat potential oil shale developments more thoroughly, especially in light of the President's synthetic fuels program. The Green and Yampa Rivers and their tributaries are being eyed for oil shale storage reservoirs or in-stream diversions to the development sites.

Thank you.

David L. Schein

David L. Schein
512 Na-Wa-Ta
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056

P.O. Box 5000
1000 Washington Ave., S.
Long Beach, Calif. 90804

September 8, 1979

Dear Sir:

I wish to inform you that I strongly urge setting aside large portions of the Green & Yampa rivers as National Wild & Scenic Rivers. The 32-mile segment of the Green River from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore should be designated as scenic rather than recreational. I oppose any dams that would affect these scenic rivers. Please make this letter part of your official records.

Sincerely,

David P. Gilbert



Ivan Schmidt
(River Guide)
Steamboat Springs, Co.
November 13, 1979

507
Regional Director
National Park Service
Rocky Mtn. Region
P.O. Box 25297
Denver, Co. 80225

Attention Director;

I have been a river guide in the Colorado-Utah area for about five years. I consider the Yampa through Dinosaur to be one of the most scenic stretches of River available. I have hiked the Cross Mountain Canyon above Deerlodge twice. This 3.5 mile wild river stretch is one of a kind. It is true that the proposed dams at Juniper Springs and Cross Mountain Canyon will not totally deny running the Yampa River in the years ahead. However, these dam projects would deem the possibility of future generations ever seeing a canyon with the magnitude of Cross Mountain Canyon impossible.

There are also several other implications which could cause diverse effects in Dinosaur National Monument as well as downstream. The squawfish and several other species may be endangered. The waterflow would be affected on the Green River and also on the Colorado. The so-called spring floods would not totally disappear, but might be heavily stalled by the Juniper Springs and Cross Mountain dam projects. Why should we take a present richness which is disappearing so quickly and replace it with a project which will bring richness in monetary form but only to a few?

I would like to ask that this letter be published within the "Draft Wild & Scenic River Study" of the Green and Yampa Rivers.

Yours truly,
Ivan Schmidt

LEO SCHNEIDER, D.D.S.
701 PERSHING ST.
P.O. BOX 808
CRAIG, COLORADO
TELEPHONE
824-5050

Glen Bean - Regional Director
R M regional office
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colo.

Dear Mr. Bean.

I am in favor of the Juniper Cross Mtn Projects. Let save Colorado water for Colorado. I am opposed to the Scenic and Wild River designation of the Yampa River. This should go on the public record. Thank you.

Dr Leo Schneider,
President Craig
Chamber of Commerce.

Craig, Colorado
Sept. 19, 1979

Mr. Don Bock
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO. 80225

Dear Mr. Bock:

We would like to go on record as opposed to any enlargement of "Wilderness" areas or "Wild Rivers".

The headwaters of the rivers that originate in the State of Colorado are nearly all in Wilderness Areas and the addition of many miles of our scenic area rivers into "wild Rivers", will effectively prohibit water storage, which, in turn, will terminate progress - industrial and agricultural, especially in Western Colorado.

When the 1% of the population who are promoting these proposals get "Good and Hungry", the rock ledges in the scenic "Wild Rivers" aren't going to "Fill Their Bellies"!

In the Table showing ownership of the proposed Wild Rivers in western Moffat County, The Department of the Interior already owns 88%. This gives them control of the river without changing the designation.

805

Sincerely,

Bill Schrader

Bill Schrader
819 W. 6th St.
Craig, Colo. 81625

Eileen Schrader

Eileen Schrader
819 W. 6th St.
Craig, Colo. 81625

Cross Mt. Div. Bogle Farms
P.O. Box 1073

Craig, Colo. 81625
9/20/79

Mr. Don Bock
Rocky Mt. Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colo. 80225

Proposed Designation of part
of the Yampa River as a
Wild and Scenic River

Dear Sir:

As a Landowner with land adjacent to the Dinosaur National Monument and up stream from the Monument we are opposed to designating part of the Yampa River as a Wild and Scenic River.

We are opposed to the restrictions that would be imposed on the watershed above that section of the River, if it were to be designated as Wild and Scenic.

Since that section of the River being considered is in the Dinosaur National Monument, it is adequately protected without being designated as Wild and Scenic.

Sincerely,

*John Sverdrup
Manager*

Please include this letter in the
Study. QB.

SHARP AND BLACK, P.C.
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW
P. O. BOX 47
41 LINCOLN AVENUE
STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO 80477

THOMAS R. SHARP
JOHN L. C. BLACK
MARY JANE SIMMONS
WILLIAM S. SCHURMAN

November 6, 1979

Mr. Glen T. Bean
Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service
655 Parfet Street
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Re: Juniper-Cross Mountain
Reservoir Project

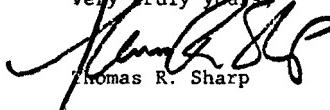
Dear Mr. Bean:

I write this letter to express to you my strong support for the Juniper-Cross Mountain Reservoir project west of Craig. The benefits of such project are enormous, including the "clean" production of hydroelectric power, the stabilization of the Yampa River stream-flow levels to some degree, the addition of water for agricultural and energy production purposes, and the additional recreational availability.

I am therefore opposed to scenic and wild river designation of the Yampa River which might adversely affect the Juniper-Cross Mountain project.

In addition to practicing law here in Steamboat Springs, I am a director of the Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District.

Very truly yours,


Thomas R. Sharp

TRS:ds

GUY T. SHEFSTEAD, Colo. Bus.

Box 608
CRAIG, COLORADO 81625

SOPHISTICATION is an ominous term by which a government first steals from its people and then leads them into slavery. This process has been used throughout history by criminal conspirators for these very purposes and in this process, is likewise being used today.

9/20/79

To: Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colo. 80225

From: Guy T. Shefstead
595 Barclay
Box 608
Craig, colo. 81625

Subject: Opposition to the inclusion of the Yampa and Green Rivers into the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

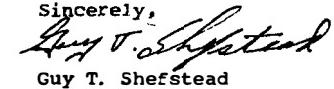
Dear Sir:

The National Wild and Scenic Rivers System "program" is merely another unconstitutional maneuver, among a multitude of unconstitutional federal activities, to undermine and destroy local control in favor of federal control. Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution limits federal control to only those areas required "for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenals, dock-yards, and other needful buildings--". Under no circumstances should the federal government be allowed to encroach upon individual and/or state sovereignty.

Hopefully, the citizens of Moffat County, and elsewhere, will count the cost of allowing a corrupt government to usurp their freedom. If this is accomplished, then widespread repudiation of the Wild and Scenic River Scheme and all of its ilk will be the result.

I request that this letter be made a part of the official record.

Sincerely,


Guy T. Shefstead

November 6, 1979
Craig, Colorado

Page 2 Continued

Mr. Glen T Bean, Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Regional Office, 655 Farfet St.
P.O. Box 25287 National Park Service
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Mr. Bean:

I am very concerned about the regulatory agencies such as the National Park Service trying to stop the proposed Juniper-Cross Mountain project because of their unscientific and costly approach exploring the diminishing population of the sculpin. Spending more than five million dollars on this sculpin recovery plan AND admitting the fact that they do not know nor understand why the sculpin are diminishing is a gross and dumb way of spending dollars needed for more worthwhile projects within the USFWS system. There are no dams nor reservoirs on the Yampa River and yet you people claim that the Juniper-Cross Mountain project will harm this trash fish, which is inedible, ugly and does no good as far as we know in the waters it inhabits. It does not contribute to our wildlife heritage either!

510
I strongly feel we must have the go-ahead signal on the Juniper-Cross Mountain project. It offers much potential. We need this water to be stored and to remain on the Western Slope where it belongs. Its use on western Colorado lands is imperative to our economy, both agriculturally and energy-mineral wise. More recreational possibilities to both eastern and west slope sportsmen will be offered as well as another great attraction for the tourists. It will not aggravate the nesting habits of the golden eagle, nor the sage grouse, upset the rabbit population nor in all probability injure the sculpin. We are avid sportsmen & fishermen who enjoy the amenities of our National Park systems. You take the taxpayers dollars, yet the taxpayers have no rights honored as to how these monies be spent. This proposed sculpin study smells fishy and I intend no pun.

Government money will be used to build this project which will center

"Mr. Glen T Bean, Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Regional Office, 655 Farfet St.
P.O. Box 25287, National Park Service
Denver, Colorado 80225

around a nine county area while the water storage and power production features will benefit the entire Western Slope as well as the whole state. I beg you to please desist from this inane study which will reap no benefits with either the National Park Service nor to the people here on the Western Slope.

Sincerely,

Mary J. Shields
Lamont, CO 80446
Craig, Colo. 81625



Sierra Club

Rocky Mountain Chapter

...TO EXPLORE, ENJOY AND PRESERVE THE NATION'S FORESTS, WATERS, WILDLIFE AND WILDERNESS...

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

September 8, 1979

Dear Sir:

On behalf of the more than 4000 Sierra Club members in Colorado and Utah, who comprise the Rocky Mountain and Utah Chapters respectively, please accept the following comments as part of the official public comment record for the Draft Wild and Scenic River Study/EIS for the Green and Yampa Rivers.

The Sierra Club has a history of effective support for the preservation of the natural values of the portions of the Green and Yampa Rivers studied. The Club is now concerned over proposed upstream water development projects which would adversely affect those natural values. We therefore welcome the recommendations made by the study team to offer protection through designations under the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

We support the recommendations for "wild" designation for the lower stretches of the Green and Yampa Rivers (Segments C and D of the study) and for "scenic" designation for the Flaming Gorge Dam to Indian Crossing portion of the Green River (Segment A). However, we urge a designation of "scenic" for the Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore on the Green River (Segment B), as opposed to your recommendation for "recreational" designation. We have reviewed the Classification Level Criteria and the findings of the study team for Segment B and conclude that that portion is qualified for "scenic" designation. We are pleased that the Colorado Department of Natural Resources also reached that conclusion, and urge that you alter your final recommendation.

We note the concern expressed about possible impact on Yampa River qualities by the several upstream water projects proposed. We share that concern and will support the Park Service in efforts to alleviate such impacts.

Respectfully,

Connally Mears

Wilderness Coordinator
Rocky Mtn. Chapter
1627 Vine Street
Denver, Colorado 80206

1627 Vine Street Denver, Colorado 80206 303-321-8282

+/-

Brian Beard
Chairman
Utah Chapter, Sierra Club
9 E First South
Logan, Utah 84321

National Park Service
Denver Service Center
Denver, Colo.

Dear Sir:

Please include this in the Draft Wild and Scenic River Study of the Green and Yampa Rivers.

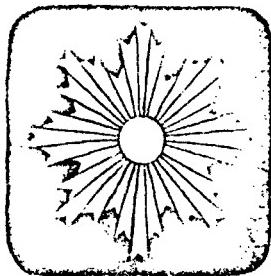
We think it would be detrimental to the whole area of Northwest Colo if the Gross Mountain and Juniper dams are not built. The agricultural, as well as energy related industries, would benefit greatly from the dams.

We feel with the river being protected in the Dinosaur Monument that is enough.

Some know, the point that we are raising food for the nation, as well as much of the world, is lost in studies such as this one.

Thank you
Melvin Snyder

Melvin Snyder
Pine Ridge Ranch
Box 1202
Craig, Colo. 81625



SOURCE

SOUTHERN UTAH RESIDENTS CONCERNED
ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT

Cedar City
P.O. Box 1453
84720

January 6, 1980

Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir:

We very strongly support and applaud the Park Service's proposal to classify sections of the Yampa and Green Rivers as National Wild and Scenic Rivers. We believe that this designation is urgently needed at this time of poorly planned and energy excused destructive development. The natural values of both of these river areas are truly remarkable, and nationally known and important. The river corridors are almost exclusively Federal land, and their protection and preservation should be mandatory under the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

The ninety-one miles of the Green and 47 miles of the Yampa, should be classified as National Wild and Scenic Rivers. The 32 mile segment of the Green from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore, qualify as scenic. We oppose any dams which would adversely affect the proposed Green and Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Please include this letter in the official record.

Very truly yours,
Patricia H. Heidenreich
Patricia H. Heidenreich
Iron County Co-ordinator
S.O.U.R.C.E.

Sept 9, 1979

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P O Box 35287
Denver Cols. 80225

Dear Sir,
I recommend that 91-miles of the Green river and 47-miles study segment of the Yampa river be added to the National Wild Scenic Rivers act.
This is for the protection of endangered fish and other resources

myrtle steel
4086 W 7750 S
West Jordan
Utah 84084

Your truly,
Myrtle Steel

Box 524
Craig, Colorado 81625
September 20, 1979

Regional Director
National Park Services
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir:

I am opposed to the designation of the Green and Yampa Rivers as Wild and Scenic Rivers. All but a mile or so of the rivers is already controlled by some governmental agency. Most of it is controlled by the Department of Interior. All of the area is regulated by water pollution laws and endangered species laws.

We do not need any more government regulation.

Please make my letter part of the official record.

Yours truly,

George St Louis
George St. Louis

DEAR SIRS

I STRONGLY SUPPORT YOUR PROPOSAL TO CLASSIFY 91 MILES OF THE GREEN RIVER AND 47 MILES OF THE YAMPA AS NATIONAL WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS. I HAVE RUN BOTH RIVERS AND KNOW THEY ARE DESERVING OF PROTECTION. I OPPOSE DRY DAMS THAT WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE PROPOSED WILD AND SCENIC DESIGNATION. PLEASE ADD THIS TO THE OFFICIAL RECORD.

Ron Thompson

416 N. 8th

ASPEN, CO. 81611

Mr. Glen T. Bean
Nat. Park Service
Denver, Colo.

941 School St
Craig, Colo
Nov. 12, 1979

Dear Mr. Bean:

I feel that designating the Yampa River as a Wild & Scenic River thru the monument does a great disservice to those of us upstream that wish to see the power of the Yampa River harnessed for electrical power and the resulting dams used for much needed recreational areas in Northwest Colorado. I donot feel that your study of the wild and scenic designation has looked at any input other than what the researchers wanted to look at.

→ Please do not let this political maneuvering affect the lives of thousands of people that live in the Yampa Valley and look forward to the implementation of the dams and the recreational opportunities afforded us.

Sincerely,
Joseph A. Tonso
Joseph A. Tonso
Zip - 81625

TRI-COUNTY WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

249-3369
P.O. Box 347 601 N. PARK
MONTROSE, COLORADO 81401

October 30, 1979

Mr. Glen T. Bean, Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service 655 Parfet St.
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

Dear Mr. Bean:

We do not wish to see the Juniper-Cross Mountain Hydroelectric Project delayed or stopped in any way because of any alleged damage to Squawfish, eagles, and peregrine falcons, which alleged damage does not have any basis in fact shown to date.

The need for energy and water development for the ecology of mans' existance should be considered as becoming very necessary and given top priority.

This project would benefit the enviroment since Hydropower is clean and is a nonconsumptive use of any natural resource. This project will also provide for irrigation, recreation, energy, and flood control all of which are a benefit to man and the enviroment. Every possible project of this type should be supported and developed.

This project does not require Government Funding and has a good cost to benefit ratio, so it should be supported and not hampered by the several Government agencies involved.

Sincerely,



Manager-Engineer

CAC:kh

1164 E. SO. TEMPLE
S.C. UT. 84112
Aug. 13, 1970

REGIONAL DIRECTOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
P.O. Box 25287
DENVER, CO. 80227-0287

DEAR SIR:

515
I WHOLE-HEARTEDLY SUPPORT THE PROTECTION OF
THE 91-MILE STRETCH OF THE GREEN AND THE
47-MILE STRETCH OF THE YAMPA TO THE NATIONAL
WILD AND SCENIC RIVER SYSTEM. I HAVE TRAVELED
AND PILOTED SECTIONS OF THE 91-MILE STRETCH
OF THE GREEN AND FOUND THE SCENERY SPECTACULAR.
I RECOMMEND THAT THESE RIVERS REMAIN UNDEVELOPED.
Does DESIGNATING THEM PART OF THE SCENIC
RIVER SYSTEM GUARANTEE THAT THEY MAINTAIN AS
MUCH AS POSSIBLE, THEIR NATURAL CONDITION? IF NOT,
WHAT DESIGNATION WOULD INSURE THIS? HOW MIGHT
I OBTAIN INFORMATION PERTAINING TO OTHER NPS
RULINGS ON THE STATUS OF RIVERS IN THE ROCKIES
AND FARTHER WEST?

I HOPE THAT MORE RIVERS ARE PROTECTED
FROM MAN-MADE INTRUSIONS BY YOUR SERVICE
AND AM APPRECIATIVE OF THE RECOMMENDATION FOR
THE GREEN & YAMPA.

Sincerely,
Paul Treloar

MOFFAT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT RE. NO. 1

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
175 TAMPA AVE. CRAIG, COLORADO 81621

November 1, 1979

Mr. Glen T. Bean, Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service, 655 Parfet St.
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80223

IN RE: Proposed Juniper-Cross Mountain hydroelectric project
west of Craig

Dear Sir:

We in the educational business wish to voice our support for the Juniper-Cross Mountain Project.

The economic and energy benefits are obvious and we feel the balance of recreational use will benefit this entire Western Slope and Colorado.

Our area is being called upon to help meet the enormous energy needs of our Nation through coal, oil shale, uranium, synthetic fuels, etc. It would seem to be obvious to even the most casual observer that water and hydroelectric power are vital to all of these projects.

Private funding is being used for this project rather than the usual federal assistance and thus we feel this is a project in the best interest of our inflationary situation.

The Dinosaur National Monument and the scenic and wild rivers concept certainly would not be affected in any adverse way by this project. In fact, the water level control factor should assist the proper use of the areas downstream from the proposed dam site.

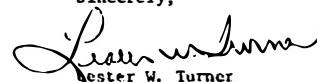
The conflicting data in the subjectively written study done by NPS and the lack of public input from the citizens who live in this area further casts doubt on the resistance by NPS.

Those of us who work for the citizens of our land in the public schools, NPS or any other public agency must be very sensitive to the needs of the people we serve.

I would strongly suggest that you use every effort to support the Juniper-Cross Mountain Project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Lester W. Turner
Administrative Assistant
to the Superintendent

UNITED SPORTSMAN'S COUNCIL OF COLORADO

4155 E. Jewell Ave., Suite 1102 -- Denver, Colorado 80222 -- (303) 756-8127

OFFICERS

John M. Schooley
President
Ronald A. Karron
1st Vice President
Jerry Mallett
2nd Vice President
Thomas V. Jacobson
Secretary-Treasurer

October 4, 1979

Regional Director
National Park Service
Post Office Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

DIRECTORS

Terms Exire 1950:
Major L. Bodenker
Thomas V. Jacobson
Joe Jones, Jr.
Ronald A. Karron
Tim Lundy

Terms Exire 1981:
Gary Buxton
G. Christian Crosby
Jack A. Harlan
David W. Holdsworth
Jerry Mallett

Terms Exire 1982:
Clinton Burgess
Marvin D. Miller
Larry Rader
John M. Schooley
Joseph Zbylski, M.D.

516

REGIONAL DIRECTORS

Alan Baier (N.W.)
W.E. "Pete" Blockburn (N.E.)
Larry Ehardt (S.W.)
Her Selby (S.E.)

EX-OFFICIO DIRECTORS

Cliff Mainquist
Douglas E. Miller
James T. Smith
Peter Van Gritenkamp

SPECIAL COUNSEL

David W. Holdsworth

Dear Sir:

Please include this letter in the official record regarding classification under the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act for the Green and Yampa Rivers.

The United Sportsman's Council of Colorado strongly supports the recommendation to protect certain segments of the Green and Yampa Rivers. The upper section below Flaming Gorge Dam offers excellent trout fishing and above average trout fishing is found down to the confluence with the Yampa.

Mule deer and bighorn sheep are present throughout the area and although portions of these big game ranges are within Dinosaur National Monument and not open to hunting, they do provide an important scientific and educational resource.

The Brown's Park area offers important waterfowl habitat.

Economically the rivers provide many dollars to the local region tourist and the river running industry.

While the Council endorses the proposal to classify 91 miles of the Green and 47 miles of the Yampa within the National Wild and Scenic River System, we also urge the upper 32 miles down to the Gates of Lodore be protected as "scenic."

Sincerely,

Ronald A. Karron
First Vice President

RAK/njp

UTAH NATURE STUDY SOCIETY

721 Second Avenue
Salt Lake City
Utah 84103

25 August 1979

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
PO Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir:

Concerning Scenic and Wild River designation of Yampa and Green Rivers.

The Issues Committee of Utah Nature Study Society strongly endorses Environmental Quality Alternative 2 in which Segment B is designated as Scenic along with Segment A while Segment C and D are designated as Wild.

The main reason for supporting this alternative is that Browns Park is a very important place for wildlife. Recreation on the whole does not concern itself with wildlife (flocketing rivers while geese are nesting and trying to raise young). It is important to give the biological processes their greatest protection possible- even if it sacrifices recreation.

We request that this statement be included within the Environmental Impact Statement.

Sincerely,

Peter Hovingh
Chairman
Issues Committee

716 N. 8th
Aspen, Co 81611
Sept. 25, 1979

National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Co 80225

Dear Sirs,

LIS

I am writing to express my support the NPS proposal to classify 91 miles of the Green and 47 miles of the Yampa as a National Wild and Scenic River.

I feel that the 32 mile segment of the Green River from Indian crossing to the Gates of Lodore should be classified "scenic" rather than recreational because it meets requirements for Scenic designation.

Please include my letter as part of the official record on the review of the proposal (Deadline for comments extended to October 1).

I am a private river runner, residing in the West for 25 years and in Colorado for two. I have floated the Green below Lodore and am familiar with the proposed terrain. The Green remains below Flaming Gorge, the last undammed free flowing great river of the west, rich in desert flora and fauna as well as Indian and Trapper/Explorer history.

I support protection of the proposed Green and Yampa Sections.

Sincerely,
Karla VonderZanden
Karla VonderZanden

5 September 1979

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Region
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

5 September, 1979

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to state my preference concerning the ETS concerning the wild and scenic river study for the Green and Yampa Rivers. I favor Alternative 2 which would provide the maximum amount of protection to the wildlife in these areas. Consequently, Segments A & B should be designated Scenic and segments C & D designated as Wild. I am also in favor of substantial protection for the wildlife in the Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge. This is particularly important for birdlife during the mating season.

Please include these comments in the gentle comment section of the draft ETS. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Donald A Van Wagenen
3173 Pheasant
Old Lake City, West Dakota
518

I am writing to state my preference concerning the ETS concerning the wild and scenic river study for the Green and Yampa Rivers. I favor Alternative 2 which would provide the maximum amount of protection to the wildlife in these areas. Consequently, Segments A & B should be designated Scenic and segments C & D designated as Wild. I am also in favor of substantial protection for the wildlife in the Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge. This is particularly important for birdlife during the mating season.

Please include these comments in the gentle comment section of the draft ETS. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Donald A Van Wagenen
3173 Pheasant
Old Lake City, West Dakota
518

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to comment on the draft Park Service proposal for the Gunnison and Uncompahgre Rivers. Alternative 2 which utilizes the most protection with "Wild + Scenic" designation for all 4 segments of the study area. I feel this designation is of vital importance for protection of the 4 undammed fish species and the Browns Park area. Holding true 91 miles of Gunnison River and 47 miles of Yampa River to the National Wild + Scenic River System receives my greatest support.

Sincerely yours,
Donald Van Wagenen
3173 Pheasant
Old Lake City, West Dakota

VISINTAINER SHEEP CO.

Box 395
CRAIG, COLORADO 81625

September 21, 1979

Mr. Don Bock
Team Leader
PO Box 25287
Denver, Colorado

615

Dear Mr. Bock:

I am opposed to the conclusions drawn up in the Draft Wild and Scenic River Study. In the Study is a table on page 193 which indicates that only 1.3% of the river is under private ownership. It seems that the river is already well protected by the various governmental agencies. We do not need another level of government on the river.

I am requesting that this letter be made part of the official record.

Sincerely,

(Signature)

VISINTAINER SHEEP CO.

Box 395
CRAIG, COLORADO 81625

September 21, 1979

Jan. 4, 1980

Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colo. 80225

Laurie Walters
Sunshine Canyon
Boulder, Colo. 80302

Dear Sir:

I strongly support the Park Service proposal to classify 91 miles of the Green and 47 miles of the Yampa as National Wild and Scenic Rivers. I urge that the 32 mile segment of the Green from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore be designated as "scenic" for which it qualifies, instead of "recreational." And I vehemently oppose any and all dams that could affect the proposed Green and Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers. I ask that my letter be made a part of the official record. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laurie L. Walters

"The West Progresses Through Construction"



WESTERN COLORADO CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION
GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO 81501

ADDRESS REPLY TO: P. O. Box 694

November 6, 1979

Mr. Glen Bean, Regional Director
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service, 655 Parfet St.
P. O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Mr. Bean:

I am writing this letter at the request of the Board of Directors of the Western Colorado Contractors Association. They have asked me to inform you of the Association's support for the building of the Juniper-Cross Mountain hydroelectric project just west of Craig Colorado.

520

I could make this correspondence much longer with various reasons but feel it is sufficient to say we are in favor of the project and opposed to the scenic and wild rivers designation of the Yampa River.

Sincerely,

Duane Scott

Duane Scott,
Office Manager

CC: U. S. Senator William Armstrong
U. S. Senator Gary Hart
Congressman James Johnson
Engineering Secretary - Roland Fischer

2461 Emerson Ave.
Salt Lake City, UT 84108
January 13, 1980

Regional Director,
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir,

Because of the increasing pressure being put on Western lands for recreation, grazing, mining, and development I feel there is a need to protect wild and scenic areas to insure that they will exist for future generations of Americans. For this reason I strongly support the Park Service proposal of making 91 miles of the Green River and 47 miles of the Yampa River part of the network of National Wild and Scenic Rivers. I feel that the 32 mile segment of the Green from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore be designated scenic. I oppose any dams that would adversely affect the character of the Green and Yampa Rivers. If an official record is being made of support for this proposal please include my letter in the count. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,
James E. B. Winkler
James E. B. Winkler

September 18, 1979

Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Sir,

We the undersigned strongly support the Park Service proposal to classify 91 miles of the Green River and 47 miles of the Yampa River as National Wild and Scenic Rivers. We urge that the 32 miles of the Green River from Indian Crossing to the Gates of Lodore be designated as "scenic", for which it qualifies, instead of "recreational". We oppose any dams that would adversely affect the proposed Green and Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers. We ask that this letter be made part of the official record.

Yours Sincerely,

Alan R Williams 4360 Winoos Ct, DENVER, Co. 80227
Helen D. Williams 4360 Winoos Ct, Denver, Colo. 80212

521

REGIONAL DIRECTOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
P.O. BOX 25287
DENVER, CO. 80225

DEAR SIR:

I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I VERY STRONGLY SUPPORT THE PARK SERVICE PROPOSAL TO CLASSIFY 91 MILES OF THE GREEN AND 47 MILES OF THE YAMPA AS "NATIONAL WILD & SCENIC RIVERS."

ALSO I STRONGLY SUPPORT THAT THE 32 MILE SEGMENT OF THE GREEN RIVER FROM INDIAN CROSSING TO THE GATES OF LODORE BE DESIGNATED AS "SCENIC" INSTEAD OF RECREATIONAL. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE YAMPA IS BEING CONSIDERED FOR DAMMING WHICH I STRONGLY OPPOSE, ESPECIALLY SINCE IT FLOWS THROUGH A NATIONAL PARK.

I AM A PROFESSIONAL RIVER GUIDE AND HAVE RUN BOTH RIVERS SEVERAL TIMES, SO I KNOW THE NATURAL TRAITS/VICES WE HAVE THERE. PLEASE DO ALL YOU CAN TO MAINTAIN THOSE AS "WILD & SCENIC". ALSO PLEASE INCLUDE THIS LETTER AS PART OF THE OFFICIAL RECORD.

Sincerely,

Mark Elliott Box 24, Durango, CO 81301

Craig, Colorado
September 21, 1979

Page 2
Reg. Dir.
Nat'l. Pk. Serv.
Tamma Winder

Regional Director
National Park Service
Box 25287
Denver, Colo. 80225

Dear Sir:

I wish to object to the consideration of the Yampa River in the Wild and Scenic Rivers classification.

According to the report: "draft wild and scenic river study (Green and Yampa Rivers), June, 1979, Colorado/Utah", I find that the Yampa River in this area is already adequately protected by existing federal bureaus and agencies.

The report (p. 190) lists concerns for protecting river environment, public access to recreation users, control of all access and land use, and protecting cultural and scenic resources, but since all but 6.8 miles (4.92%) is already adequately protected by the Federal Government (US Dept. of Interior and US Dept. of Agriculture), I fail to see where a Wild and Scenic Rivers designation is necessary for addressing these concerns.

S22

On pages 192 and 318 of the report, the proposed recreational developments, as itemized, could be accomplished at once, with the exception of the purchase of scenic easements. These could possibly be purchased now, if the seller were willing. Any regulation, designation, or law which would tend to intimidate the seller is not needed. This is not in the interest of the public health or safety--only in the interest of public pleasure.

Water flow could be affected by Wild and Scenic Rivers designation. Please bear with me as I explain. Speaking as one who has floated the Yampa, I am concerned for this experience. I would prefer a longer float season. I have seen the Yampa too low to float in May, other times in July. A month or 6 weeks is a very short season. Light snow pack, late springs, heavy

runoffs, and droughts all affect the flow of the Yampa, and Wild and Scenic designation will not change these results. However, development upstream could make a longer season and the action of a wild river would not be lost because the Little Snake River enters the Yampa below any proposed development on the Yampa. It would not increase the number of boaters as this is already limited by the National Park Service, but it could spread the usage over a longer season, and one might again experience the atmosphere of solitude and quiet.

A Wild River designation would not change the scenery, and it will not offer greater protection to archeological or historical sites because they are already protected by the Park Service. I believe the designation of the Yampa River as a Wild and Scenic River is, at best, unnecessary and at worst a duplication of service and a waste of Federal monies.

I request that this letter be made a part of the official record. Thank you.

TW:sa

Very truly yours,
Tamma Winder
Tamma Winder
Box 276
Craig, Colo. 81625

M. Wray W.H.
835 18th St.
Boulder, CO 80302
September 20, 1979

Regional Director
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

Dear Regional Director:

I realize this letter may be too late by your cutoff date
but I will put myself on the record anyway.

I am writing to ask you to strongly support the Park Service
proposal to classify 91 miles of the Gunnison River and 47 miles of
the Yampa River as National Wild and Scenic Rivers. The Act
was made for just such rivers as these. Their value to the
ever increasing number of people who do wish to experience nature
in its unhampered state is very much greater than the
use of these rivers for anything else. I would include in that
above comparison a specific statement that power generation
such as that proposed by Old Creek Power Company or The
Timpan-Groes Mountain project simply is a far inferior use of a
vanishing resource - wild and scenic rivers.

I would further urge you to support designation of the 32
miles of the Green River from Indian Crossing to the outlet of Lake
de Smet "as scenic" instead of "recreational".

I hope this letter is not too late to be made a part
of the official record.

Thank you for your continual help in preserving our
country. I hope you will take the stand necessary to protect
these rivers.

Very truly,
M. Wray W.H.

Regional Director
Bureau of Land Management
National Park Service
655 Palkitt Street
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Co. 80225

8 August 1979

Sir:

Having recently read the draft wild and scenic river study report on the Gunnison and Colorado Rivers, I wish to add my comments to your file on the report.

The Bureau of Land Management has proposed a several mile stretch of the Colorado River as a "wild" river at Dinosaur National Monument and I had the opportunity to see and enjoy much of the area along the rivers that will under consideration as a wild and scenic river.

The Colorado River is truly a wild river and should remain so for all time in my opinion, and have scenic and primitive beauty that no other river in the West will be able to enjoy them as we have done in the past.

Thank you.

The Gunnison River, and cannot imagine enough man feeling that the Gunnison River be added to the wild and scenic rivers of our nation, protected for all time in its wild splendor.

I'd like favor the addition of that segment of the Gunnison River flowing from Dinosaur and the southern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument to our Wild and Scenic River system.

We have asked the segment from the Gates of Lodore to Split Mountain through Dinosaur and spent time in the Brown's Park area of the Gunnison and believe that both areas contain ample historic, scenic, and archaeological value to warrant being added as a wild and scenic river, and hope and trust that both rivers may be added to our Wild and Scenic River System as that future generations of Americans will be able to enjoy them as we have done in the past.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
John D. Nichols
Grand Junction
U. S. 62 C.R. 1957
Spokane, WA.
99201

National Park Service.
National Park Service.

Sept 3, 1979

Dear Sir:

I strongly support the Park Service proposal to close the 91 miles of the Colorado River and the 47 miles of the Yampa as National Wild & Scenic Rivers. I do believe that the 32 mile segment between Green River Canyon to the Gates of Lodore should be designated as "Scenic". As in my opinion the most definitive qualities. I also propose any dams that would unavoidably affect this proposed Yampa and Green Wild & Scenic Rivers. I believe the Park Service proposal is needed as new laws in Colorado & Utah has the protection of the National Wild & Scenic System. Please include my letter to each of the official agencies.

Steve Zehner
20952 Drexel Rd.
Englewood, Colorado
80439

APPENDIX A

OUTLINE AND APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLES
AND STANDARDS PROCEDURES TO ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS

According to Principles and Standards, planning for the use and development of the nation's water and related land resources is undertaken to serve the major objectives of national economic development and preservation or enhancement of environmental quality. In some cases an objective can be served without conflicting with the other objectives and alternative plans need not be developed. If there are conflicts between the objectives, at least two alternative plans must be developed, one which must optimize contributions to the national economic development objective, and one which must optimize contributions to the environmental quality objective. Both objectives are equal in importance and are treated equally in the final analysis. Each alternative is evaluated to determine how well it satisfies the objective for which it was formulated by displaying the measured beneficial and adverse effects of the alternatives in the four-account system (National Economic Development, Environmental Quality, Regional Development, and Social Well Being).

In this analysis, it was assumed that wild and scenic river designation may interfere with proposed water resources projects if these projects are determined to be feasible and are not precluded from being constructed by the Endangered Species Act. It is not known to what degree wild and river designation could affect water resource development in the Yampa River basin, but adverse effects are likely.

SPECIFICATION OF OBJECTIVES

The first step in the analysis is to identify or specify the components of the two major objectives. These components must be of concern to the Nation, be present in or relevant to the resources being studied, be measurable or capable of being qualitatively defined, and be those which can be substantially influenced through management and development alternatives available to planners.

The national economic development objective can be served in two basic ways: (1) by increasing economic values through increasing output or production of goods and services or (2) by increasing economic efficiency in the production of goods and services.

The economy of the Yampa and Green River basin is largely resource oriented. Major goods and services produced in the area, in declining order of economic importance, are minerals, agricultural products, outdoor recreation, and timber. National economic development can be served by increasing production of any of these components, provided that the share of national demand allocated to this area exceeds the current or projected supply (production). Increased efficiency in producing these goods or services will also contribute to the national economic development objective.

The initial components of the national economic development objective identified in the Yampa and Green River basins were increased or more efficient (1) provision of outdoor recreation services, (2) production of agricultural products, (3) production of mineral resources, (4) provision of hunting and fishing opportunities, (5) power production, and (6) water resource development.

The environment of the Yampa-Green study area possesses outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, and other similar values. Preservation or enhancement of these values for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations of the nation would serve the environmental quality objective of Principles and Standards.

The initial components of the environmental quality objective identified in the Yampa and Green River corridors were the preservation or enhancement of (1) areas of natural beauty and river segments with wild, scenic, or recreational river characteristics, (2) outstandingly remarkable cultural values, (3) endangered or threatened wildlife, fish, or vegetation, (4) air, auditory, and water quality, (5) freedom of choice to future resource users by avoiding irreversible or irretrievable effects, and (6) outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, cultural, fish and wildlife, or other similar values.

SECOND LEVEL SPECIFICATION OF COMPONENTS

A second level specification of components was made to determine which components are relevant to the Yampa and Green Wild and Scenic Rivers Study area and the action available to planners under authority of this study.

Components of the national economic development alternative which were identified in the second level specification were increased or more efficient provision of recreation services for developed camping, picnicking, and canoeing or rafting on streams.

Components of national economic development eliminated in the second level specification were increased or more efficient (1)

production of agricultural products within the corridor, which was eliminated because all available agricultural land in the corridor is presently utilized and expected to continue to be utilized for its maximum economic potential without conflicting with wild and scenic river designation; (2) production of mineral resources, which was dropped as a component because there are no known valuable mineral resources of significance in the study corridor;¹ (3) power production, which was eliminated because the only power site withdrawals within the corridor have been or are being revoked by the project sponsors and wild and scenic river designation is not expected to conflict with fossil or fissionable fuel development; (4) provision of hunting and fishing opportunities, which was eliminated because they are either in conflict with other uses of the area or the increased opportunities are already part of management programs for the area; and (5) water resource development, which was eliminated because of insufficient project data and the fact that the feasibility of proposed projects has not yet been determined.

Components of environmental quality identified in the second level specification were as follows:

- (1) preservation of 91 miles (146.4 km) of wild river values in and along the Yampa River and Green River in Dinosaur National Monument,
- (2) preservation of 47 miles (75.8 km) of scenic river values in and along the Green River from just below Flaming Gorge Dam downstream to the Gates of Lodore in Dinosaur National Monument,

1. There are potentially valuable minerals along the Yampa River upstream from the study segment that may be indirectly affected by designation.

- (3) preservation or enhancement of areas of natural beauty,
- (4) preservation or enhancement of air and auditory quality, and
- (5) preservation of freedom of choice to future resource users by avoiding irreversible and irretrievable effects.

The following components of the environmental quality objective were eliminated in the second level specification:

- (1) protection of endangered species was eliminated because they are already protected by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (unless exempted),
- (2) preservation of water quality was eliminated as a component since adequate protection currently exists. Statutes, regulations, and policies will be recognized in management plans for designated segments to provide for protection of water quality and to safeguard against degradation.

ASSUMPTIONS FOR COMPONENT NEED SPECIFICATION

The purpose of an alternative plan is to contribute to the objectives of preservation of environmental quality or national economic development. To contribute to either objective, a plan must provide for a demand which is unmet by current or expected supply (need).

The measurement of needs for the increased provision of recreation services in the Colorado portion of the Yampa River basin was derived from the Colorado State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).² Also, the Utah SCORP was utilized, which shows

2. Data shown for needs for recreation in Regions 11 and 12 in the Colorado SCORP were adjusted relative to the portion of the total population in Regions 11 and 12 which resides in the Yampa River Basin. Colorado SCORP data were also adjusted to represent recreation days.

the need for the increased provision of recreation services. Table I displays 1975 needs for increased recreation services in recreation days and projected increases in recreation use in the Colorado portion of the Yampa River basin.

Assumptions related to derivation of need for components of the environmental objectives are as follows:

- (1) There is a national need for the beneficial esthetic, environmental, and spiritual effects associated with the preservation of free-flowing streams that have outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historical, cultural, and other similar values.

Table A-1
Recreation Needs and Use in
the Yampa River Basin in Colorado

<u>Activity</u>	<u>1975 Needs (Unmet Demand)</u>	<u>1975 Use</u>	<u>Projected 1990 Use</u>	<u>1990 Projected Percent Increase In Use</u>
Developed Camping	208,500	966,700	1,445,800	50%
Developed Picnicking	23,800	106,200	155,400	46%
Canoe/Raft on Streams	73,400	21,700	33,300	53%
TOTAL	305,700	1,094,600	1,634,500	49%

- (2) It was assumed that the greatest contribution to the environmental quality objective is made by the inclusion of areas in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System as wild river areas; the next greatest, by scenic river area inclusion; and the least by recreational river designation, provided in each case that the river segments meet minimum criteria for that classification level.

The following tables display additional information resulting from the Principles and Standards analysis. Table 2 displays differences in effects between the recommended plan (Alternative 1) and each other alternative plan. For a display of the differences in effects between the No Action Alternative and each alternative plan, see table XI-5 in chapter XI and table 2 in this appendix.

Table 3 displays expected government expenses for each alternative and segment. All expenses listed are in addition to existing government expenses in the area of analysis. The on-site recreationist expenditure and government cost data shown in table 3 is summarized in table 4 in both discounted and non-discounted forms.

TABLE A-2 – DIFFERENCES IN EFFECTS BETWEEN THE RECOMMENDED AND OTHER ALTERNATIVES – IN 1980

		ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ALTERNATIVES							
Account	Components	Recommended Alternative – EQ 1		National Economic Development Alternative		Alternatives 2		Alternatives 3	
		Total ²	Difference ³	Total	Difference	Seg. A – Scenic Seg. B – Scenic Seg. C – Wild Seg. D – Wild	No Designation Increased Recreation ⁴	Seg. A – Scenic Seg. B – Scenic Seg. C – Wild Seg. D – No Designation	Seg. A – No Designation Seg. B – No Designation Seg. C – No Designation Seg. D – Wild
D	Camping	300		300		300		300	
N E E	Other Water Craft	56,750		109,300	52,550	56,750		56,750	
A C V	Cold Water Fishing	4,700		4,700		4,700		4,700	
T O E	Water Fowl Hunting	5,800		5,800		5,800		5,800	
I N L	Picnicking	200		200		200		200	
O O O	Camping	95,510		129,800	34,290	95,510		95,180	-350
N M P	Walking	2,400		2,400		2,400		2,400	
A I M	Floating/Fishing	6,780		10,100	3,320	6,780		5,460	-1,300
L C E	Campsite/Shore Fishing	3,350		8,400	5,850	3,750		1,650	-2,100
N	Deer Hunting	600		600		600		600	
T	Other	1,890		1,310	-380	1,890		1,890	
	Total Annual Recreation Days	178,280		273,710	95,430	178,280		174,510	-3,760
	Annual Recreationist Expenditures ⁵	\$1,782,000		\$2,958,000		\$1,762,000		\$1,702,000	
	Annual Government Expenditures ⁶	\$ 102,000		\$ 298,000		\$ 102,000		0	
	Water Resource Development	Same as recommended plan.		No potential for this plan to conflict with potential development.		Same as recommended plan.		Same as recommended plan.	
		Preservation of Free-flowing Stream	91 Miles (146.4 km) – Wild River 47 Miles (75.7 km) – Scenic River	138 miles (222.2 km) of river with outstandingly remarkable values may not be preserved.	44 Miles (70.8 km) – Wild River 15 Miles (24.2 km) – Scenic River 32 Miles (51.5 km) – Recreational River	47 Miles (75.7 km) – Wild River			
			138 Miles (222.2 km) – Preserved	91 Miles (146.5 km) – Preserved	47 Miles (75.7 km) – Preserved				
		Preservation and Enhancement of Areas of Natural Beauty	Same effects as described for the recommended alternative with the exception that future developments in segment B will be more restricted.	All areas with economic potential will be developed. Could allow the development of additional roadway for the proposed Maybell, Colorado to Rock Springs, Wyoming road realignment in the visual corridors of segments A and B, which would degrade areas of natural beauty.	Areas of natural beauty preserved on about 56,000 acres. Would preclude the development of additional roadway for the proposed Maybell, Colorado to Rock Springs, Wyoming road realignment in the visual corridors of segments A and B, assuming more feasible and prudent alternative for realignment exists.	Areas of natural beauty preserved on about 30,000 acres. Would allow the development of additional roadway for the proposed Maybell, Colorado to Rock Springs, Wyoming road realignment in the visual corridors of segments A and B, which would degrade areas of natural beauty.			
		Preservation of Historic and Cultural Resources	Will provide the same level of preservation as that of the recommended alternative. Limited access may improve preservation. Interpretation enhances public use values.	Will not provide additional money for site protection. Increased recreation use may result in increased damage to cultural resources.	Will have effects similar to those described under the recommended alternative.	May result in damage to cultural resources at sites located in undeveloped segments, most likely segments A and B.			
		Preservation of Air and Auditory Qualities	Same as recommended alternative, but possible changed access in segment B may cause less auto use.	Could result in degradation of air and auditory qualities, should realignment of the Maybell to Rock Springs route occur in the visual corridors of segments A and B.	Same as recommended alternative.	Could result in degradation of air and auditory qualities should realignment of the Maybell to Rock Springs route occur in the visual corridors of segments A and B.			
		Preservation of Water Quality	Same as recommended alternative.	State water quality standards could be lowered if needed for economic reasons.	Same as recommended alternative.	Would essentially maintain existing waterquality.			
		Protection of Endangered and Threatened Vegetative Species	None known.	None known.	None known.	None known.			
		Protection of Endangered and Threatened Species	Same as recommended alternative.	Same as recommended alternative.	Same as recommended alternative.	Same as recommended alternative.			
		Preservation of Freedom of Choice	Same as recommended alternative. Recreation development options decrease in segment B.	Economically important options increase and preservation options decrease.	Same as recommended alternative.	Preservation options increase in the designated segment. Development options decrease there but increase in segments A, B, and C.			
		Avoid Irreversible or Irretrievable Effects	Scenic and recreation values preserved. Future development choices postponed.	Probable loss of outstandingly remarkable scenic and recreational values.	Scenic and recreational values preserved. Future development choices postponed.	No legal preservation of scenic and recreational values in undeveloped segments. Future development choices postponed in segment D.			

¹All recreation use is in recreation days.²Figures in the Total column are the use projected for the No Action Alternative plus increases, if any, expected under this plan.³Figures in the Net column are the amount of use for this plan minus that projected for the No Action Alternative.⁴Difference column figures are the difference between use for a plan and use projected for the proposal (EQ Alternative 1).⁵See footnotes to Table XI-2 for the derivation of these values.⁶Annual administration, operation, and maintenance, plus amortization of present costs and a sinking fund. See table 4 in the appendix.

TABLE A-3 – ITEMIZED COSTS BY SEGMENT FOR EACH ALTERNATIVE PLAN

Cost Item	National Economic Development Option	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ALTERNATIVES		
		Alternative 1 Seg. A – Scenic Seg. B – Scenic Seg. C&D – Wild	Alternative 2 Seg. A – Scenic Seg. B – Scenic Seg. C – Wild Seg. D – No Designation	Alternative 3 Seg. A – No Designation Seg. B&C – No Designation Seg. D – Wild
Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area				
Rehabilitating and expanding Little Hole Campground		\$370,000	\$370,000	
Hardening Little Hole Campground road, spurs, and paths		219,500	219,500	
Upgrade Little Hole foot trail		3,500	3,500	
Upgrade Spillway road, parking lot, toilet; construct foot trail		86,000	86,000	
Spillway boat ramp rehabilitation		47,800	47,800	
Upgrade toilets at Red Creek Rapid		5,000	5,000	
Signing where needed		750	750	
Brochure for segment A		600	600	
Control noxious weeds		1,000	1,000	
Subtotal Non-annual Costs	None	\$734,150	\$734,150	None
Annual Additional A, O & M Required¹	None	3,750 RD = \$6,075 per annum	3,750 RD = \$6,075 per annum	None
Bridge Hollow Development				
Scenic Easements (108 acres)			\$162,000	\$162,000
Developed water supply	10,000			
10-unit campsite	30,000	30,000		30,000
4-unit picnic site	3,500	3,500		3,500
Fish cleaning station	5,000	5,000		5,000
Subtotal Non-annual Costs	\$ 48,500	\$200,500	\$200,500	None
Annual Additional A' O & M Required¹	12,398 RD = \$20,085	3,398 RD = \$5,505	3,398 RD = \$5,505	None
Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge				
Protection of historic sites		80,000	80,000	
Interpret historic sites		80,000	80,000	
Subtotal Non-annual Costs	None	\$140,000	\$140,000	None
Annual Additional A, O & M Required¹	None	None	None	None
Dinosaur National Monument				
Annual Additional A, O & M Required for Segment C ²		52,868 RD = \$158,598	None	None
Annual Additional A, O & M Required for Segment D ²		38,316 RD = \$114,948	None	None

¹A, O & M costs are estimated to be \$1.62 per recreation day.

²A, O & M costs are estimated to be \$3.00 per recreation day.

TABLE A-4 – SUMMARY OF ON-SITE RECREATIONIST EXPENDITURES AND GOVERNMENT COST DATA

	National Economic Development Alternative	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ALTERNATIVES					
		Alternative 1		Alternative 2		Alternative 3	
		Seg. A – Scenic	Seg. B – Scenic	Seg. C – Wild	Seg. D – No Designation	Seg. A – No Designation	Seg. B – No Designation
Present cost (1976 dollars)	\$ 48,500	\$1,074,650		\$1,074,650		0	
Annual Payment of Present Cost for 50-year period at 6.3/8% interest	3,239	71,768		71,768		0	
Sinking Fund (25-year replacement of Recreational Developments)	638	18,568		18,568		0	
Annual Additional Cost for Administration	293,631	11,580		11,580		0	
Total Annual Costs	297,708	101,916		101,916		0	
Total Annual On-Site Recreationist Expenditures	\$1,255,900	\$ 59,578		\$ 59,578		No effect	
	<u>Discounted to 1990</u>	<u>Discounted to 2026</u>	<u>Discounted to 1990</u>	<u>Discounted to 2026</u>	<u>Discounted to 1990</u>	<u>Discounted to 1990</u>	<u>Discounted to 2026</u>
Discounted Total Annual Costs	\$125,116	\$13,523	\$42,903	\$4,638	\$42,903	\$4,638	0
Discounted Annual On-site Expenditures	528,690	57,145	25,080	2,711	25,080	2,711	0

APPENDIX B



United States Department of the Interior
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

IN REPLY REFER TO:

FA/SE/NPS--Green-Yampa
Wild & Scenic River Study
(6-5-79-F-283)

MAILING ADDRESS:
Post Office Box 25406
Denver Federal Center
Denver, Colorado 80225

STREET LOCATION:
134 Union Blvd.
Lakewood, Colorado 80228

SEP 12 1979

MEMORANDUM

To: Regional Director, Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service, Denver, Colorado

From: Acting Regional Director, Region 6
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Denver, Colorado

Subject: Biological Opinion, Green and Yampa Wild and Scenic River
Study

This is our biological opinion prepared in response to your July 27, 1979, memorandum requesting endangered species consultation for designating sections of the Green and Yampa Rivers as Wild and Scenic under the Wild Scenic River Act (PL 90-542).

Opinion

It is our biological opinion that designating sections of the Green and Yampa Rivers as wild and scenic will promote conservation of the Colorado squawfish and humpback chub, both Federally listed as endangered. Designation of the river sections will also benefit the razorback sucker and bonytail chub which are proposed for listing as threatened and endangered, respectively. We concur with your assessment that the proposed designation would not affect the American peregrine falcon, bald eagle, and black-footed ferret.

Project Description

On January 3, 1975, amendments to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act nominated 28 rivers to be studied for possible designation as Wild or Scenic Rivers. Included in the nominations were 91 miles of the Green River from below Flaming Gorge Dam to the southern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument, and 45 miles of the Yampa River from the eastern boundary of Dinosaur National Monument to the confluence with the Green River.

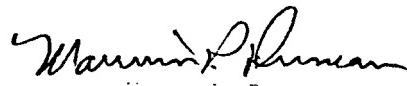


Save Energy and You Serve America!

Basis of Opinion

The proposed action will be beneficial to threatened and endangered fish species because the designation of the river segments will tend to preserve existing natural flows for both the Green and Yampa Rivers. In addition, under the Wild and Scenic River Act, future allocation or reduction in flows proposed by water development projects must be reviewed by the Secretary of Interior to ensure these actions would not "unreasonably diminish the scenic, recreational, and fish and wildlife values present" or cause a "direct and adverse effect on the values for which the river might be designated." Any authorization to develop the canyon areas or the water from the Yampa or Green Rivers will require the issuing agency to ensure the proposed action would neither jeopardize the continued existence of the species nor adversely affect the scenic qualities of the river and canyon sections. Thus, endangered species in the Green and Yampa canyon areas will be protected both by the Endangered Species Act and National Wild and Scenic River Act.

For the above reasons, we believe designation of the nominated sections of Green and Yampa Rivers as Wild and Scenic Rivers will aid in the protection and conservation of endangered species. Thank you for your interest in conserving endangered species.


Marvin L. Johnson

APPENDIX C

S U M M A R Y O F 1 9 7 6
P U B L I C M E E T I N G R E S P O N S E

During the 1976 public meetings held in Craig and Denver, Colorado, and Vernal and Salt Lake City, Utah, public response forms were passed out which requested the respondents' opinions on various alternatives. The response forms offered two alternatives for each of the four river segments, and those answering were also given space to suggest their own alternatives; many did. For each segment, there was a no action alternative, (A-1, B-1, C-1, D-1), and there were alternatives which entailed designation of each segment at the level the study team determined the segments qualified for (A-2, B-2, C-2, D-2). The table below breaks the total responses down by segment.

<u>Segment A -- Red Canyon</u>		<u>Responses</u>
Take no action		24
Designate as scenic river area (classification level determined by study team)		34
Designate as wild river area (classification determined by respondents)		60
Designate as recreational river area (classification determined by respondent)		1
<u>Segment B -- Browns Park</u>		
Take no action		20
Designate as recreational river area (classification determined by study team)		35
Designate as scenic river area (classification level determined by respondents)		55

Designate as wild river area (classification level determined by respondents) 4

Segment C -- Canyons of the Green in Dinosaur National Mountain

Take no action	25
Designate as wild river area	94

Segment D -- Yampa River

Take no action	24
Designate as wild river area	92

Other responses appeared. A substantial group of respondents suggested, some on the basis of personal familiarity with the area, that the study of the Yampa be extended up through the Lily Park area, to subsume Cross Mountain Canyon (31). They cited the outstanding recreation, scenery, geology, and wildlife values of the reach as justification for this position.

Other suggestions for new alternatives were infrequently cited: study the Green River from Jensen, Utah, to its confluence with the Colorado River; study the White River from its source in the Flattops Wilderness, Colorado, to its confluence with the Green; and study the Niobrara River in Nebraska. These were each suggested once. One respondent called for Flaming Gorge Dam and Glen Canyon dam to be dismantled; and one respondent suggested that the study team "Get the hell out of Here."

In sum, designation of every segment was favored in the 1976 public responses by a factor of about 4 to 1. In segments A and B, of the group favoring designation, nearly two thirds felt the study team had not correctly determined the classification levels for which these segments qualify. Several respondents noted that the

study team had initially believed that Browns Park qualified for a scenic river area classification, and wondered if its later determination, recreational river area, had been made to permit the Fish and Wildlife Service make recreational improvements. Many local respondents were strongly opposed to the study, and thus to any designation under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act; their points were that there is already adequate or over-adequate protection for the corridor, and that designation might preclude the construction of upstream water projects on the Yampa. Most local respondents opposed the creation of new bureaucracies or the extension of powers to existing bureaucracies, stating that this would be a waste of their tax dollars, and counterproductive to any national efforts to overcome the energy crises.

The majority favoring designation were generally of the opinion that free flowing rivers, particularly of the quality of these, were scarce and required the protection that wild and scenic designation would offer them. Many stressed that the Yampa, the last undammed major tributary in the Colorado system, particularly deserved this protection, since it might preclude the construction of upstream dams. More than half of those favoring designation claimed personal familiarity with the area.

APPENDIX D

L I S T O F P R E P A R E R S

Green-Yampa Wild and Scenic Rivers Study and Environmental Statement

<u>National Park Service</u>	<u>Title</u>
Donald L. Bock, Team Leader	Outdoor Recreation Planner
Earl Perry	Outdoor Recreation Planner
Steve Hunt	Outdoor Recreation Planner
Charles Adams	Park Planner
Steve Petersburg	Resource Management Specialist, Dinosaur National Monument
Edward Nichols	Chief Ranger, Dinosaur National Monument
Emily Dekker-Fiala	River Ranger, Dinosaur National Monument
 <u>State of Colorado</u>	
Duane Helton, Team Co-Leader	Chief, Environmental Section, Colorado Water Conservation Board
Pat Valentine	Water Resource Specialist
Anthony Martinez	Water Resource Specialist
Bob McCabe	Water Resource Specialist
Bruce Rippeteau	State Archaeologist
 <u>State of Utah</u>	
Milo Barney, Team Co-Leader	Natural Resources Coordinator
Therald E. Green, Jr., Former Team Co-Leader	Outdoor Recreation Planner
David Madsen	State Archaeologist
 <u>Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service</u> (Formerly Bureau of Outdoor Recreation)	
Harold Belisle, Former Team Leader	Outdoor Recreation Planner
Donald L. Bock, Former Team Leader	Outdoor Recreation Planner
Duane Holmes	Outdoor Recreation Planner
Casey Snyder	Outdoor Recreation Planner
 <u>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service</u>	
Keith Rose	Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Reed Harris	Fish and Wildlife Biologist
 <u>Bureau of Mines</u>	
Earl Brauch	Physical Scientist

<u>Bureau of Land Management</u>	<u>Title</u>
Curtis Tucker Nancy Coulam	Outdoor Recreation Planner Archaeologist
<u>Forest Service</u>	
David Black Craig A. Giffen	Forester Director, Area Planning and Development, Rocky Mountain Region
Charles Palmer	Economist
<u>Water and Power Resources Service</u> (Formerly Bureau of Reclamation)	
Larry Bean Henry Drake	Landscape Architect Landscape Architect
<u>Moffat County Planning Department</u>	
Russ Sorenson	Assistant Planner
<u>Contract Writer/Photographer</u>	
David Summer	

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As the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has basic responsibilities to protect and conserve our land and water, energy and minerals, fish and wildlife, and parks and recreation areas, and to ensure the wise use of all these resources. The department also has major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.

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